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ELSIE BYRD BOGGS

THE HAMMERS AND ALLIED FAMILIES^c

WITH THEIR FAMILY CIRCLES CENTERING IN
PENDLETON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

THE BYRDS, CAPLINGERS, CUNNINGHAMS, HARP-
ERS, HINKLES, KILES, MEADOWS, RUDDLES, AND
A HOST OF OTHERS, WITH INCIDENTS OF PEACE
AND WAR, STORIES OF HOME LIFE, ACHIEVE-
MENT, ROMANCE AND TRAGEDY

BY

ELSIE BYRD BOGGS

JOSEPH K. RUEBUSH COMPANY

HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

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THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO MY GRANDMOTHER

MARY ANN HAMMER BYRD

1222059

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PREFACE

I feel it a duty as well as a privilege to compile this history which will outlive me—a connecting link between the past and the future—and much will be lost if not recorded at this time. For many of the facts I have relied on older members of the families and on my own recollection of what I learned from them while I had the advantage of personal contact with them whose voices are no longer heard.

I lived near by great-grand mother, Mary (Harper) Hammer for twenty-seven years and near by grandmother, Mary Ann Byrd for twenty years, and when one year old I had the privilege of sitting on the lap of my great-great-grandmother, Phebe (Hinkle) Harper. I had many conversations with my great-aunt, Katherine Trimble of Monterey, Va., who had an active mind and a storehouse of knowledge. She lived to the age of ninety three years and although her eyes were closed for ten years to things earthly her mind and her face were radiant with the vision of things invisible to mortal sight. My parents, John W. and Phebe M. Byrd and three of my grandparents died early in life, so with information from the ones who lived long I feel that I should pass it on to those of the future who may be interested. Written words make a permanent record while spoken words are often forgotten. I have found my self-imposed task not only arduous but fascinating as well. The desire to perpetuate the names and deeds of our progenitors has but recently taken possession of some of us. Our ancestry dates back in America only about ten generations and the hearthstones of the early settlers have but recently crumbled away.

Our ancestors do not become a subject of particular interest until middle life has drawn about us the mysteries and questionings which come with the passing years. But the time comes when one likes to think of himself as a link

in the family succession. The source of his strength, physical and mental, has been derived from his progenitors and he in turn desires to contribute to the good of another generation in some way or form as may be within his capacity.

Genealogy may be properly regarded in the light of a science, which it is destined to become, and there are various ways of presenting the results of genealogical research. It is not only an orderly and accurate record of successive generations descending from one ancestor, but it is much more than this. It presents a history of different periods of time, showing the struggles of men and the trend of their thoughts. We should realize that the long history of the race is God's story. When we make the personal acquaintance of our ancestors we feel the continuity of life in a way that strengthens our faith in immortality.

My Grandmother Byrd, who was the ideal of my young life, inspired me to write by telling me family details and traditions. When perhaps twelve I began to realize that I could not remember correctly the things that she told me so decided to make record of them. This was while I was spending a week with her when her daughter, Adelaide, was visiting her other daughter, Mrs. Trumbo at Brandywine. After I went home I was very quiet in my room for awhile with the door closed and my mother came to inquire what I was doing. I informed her that I was writing a history of my ancestors, which amused her and at the dinner table she announced pleasantly but rather jokingly—that they had a historian in the family. I received this as a criticism—or a reproof for something that I should not do—so I hid my papers away and did not refer to them for a period of years, yet that call within me to write never died but grew and governed my life by turns. There were many facts then which were passed over as mere incidental things that would now be valuable as history if my mother could have been my ally. Thus I learned the importance of a parent's understanding and sympathy with the child.

My first efforts were thus stated—"History of my Ancestors."

"My Grandmother Byrd's grandparents on her mother's side were George Caplinger born August 23, 1744

and died January 15, 1829 and Elizabeth Caplinger, nee Dice, born January 5, 1758 and died September 13, 1809 and grandmother's grandparents on her father's side were George Hammer who came as a pioneer settler and bought land here in 1761 and who was twice married. It was his second wife whose name was Susanna that was her grandmother. Grandmother's mother was Katherine Hammer, nee Caplinger, who had two brothers: George Caplinger, Jr. who married Sarah Collett May 13, 1805 and lived at Beverly, West Va. and Adam Caplinger who married Mary Bible in 1810 and lived in Illinois or Indiana and also five sisters: Elizabeth who married Andrew Keller in 1800 and lived in the State of Maryland, Barbara who married George Keller in 1803, Susanna who married Absalom Fisher April 16, 1811, Christina who married Nicholas Kias and lived in Ross county, Ohio, and Phebe who married Henry Hammer and lived at the old Hammer homestead on the South Branch, and their three children, John, Adam and Christina, were grandmother's double first cousins."

Later, I added various items as I got hold of them from time to time.

ELSIE BYRD BOGGS

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INTRODUCTION

The wealth of history and genealogy in this book will be prized by hundreds, perhaps thousands, of widely distributed persons who are descendants of the several families presented; and many others, not related by family ties, will also find in it much to engage and reward their attention. It is replete with narratives of real human interest.

There are stories of mechanical inventions and local industrial operations, for example, that of the old McCoy Mill at the mouth of the Thorn. The series of Civil War letters have value for the student of history as well as interest for the general reader. The poignant tragedy in which Rev. Ambrose Meadows was an innocent victim is typical of the excesses into which the fury of war leads men who in normal times would be controlled by reason and a sense of justice.

For her self-appointed task Mrs. Boggs has enjoyed unusual opportunities and experiences, and to it has devoted unusual qualities. In her childhood and early life she was intimately associated with persons who had lived long and whose lives had been enriched by a faith and courage that held fast through all vicissitudes. And she had those qualities, so frequently lacking in the young, an interest in the past, an appreciation of what her elders could give her, and the habit of writing down what they told her, along with her own observations and experiences. The result has been a record of wide variety and lasting value.

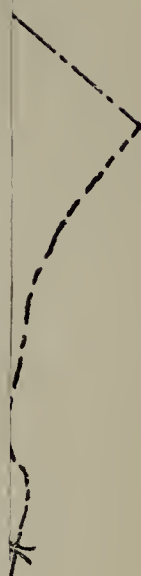
Her natural inclinations and early habits were enhanced by appropriate activities in mature life. For a number of years she worked as an assistant in the clerk's office of her native county, thus learning how to trace out lines of investigation in the public records. She then went into the clerks' offices at other places for more extended research. Expanding interests and needs carried her investigations to various libraries, to the D. A. R. and other archives in

Washington City. Numerous old churches and cemeteries were visited, Bible records and diaries were examined, and an extensive correspondence was carried on with individuals in different parts of the United States. Her gift for noting and recording details of interest and significance enriches her work throughout. How she succeeded in collecting and arranging such a wealth of pertinent items is a question that excites wonder, but that she succeeded in a remarkable degree is obvious. Her achievement proves a labor of love diligently and efficiently continued through many years.

Mrs. Boggs has worked out also in detail Meadows, Harper, and Harness genealogies and has written booklets of value to persons who are interested in the history of her church and the Woman's Auxiliary at Franklin and in the North Fork Field. She is now engaged in compiling a history of all the churches in Pendleton County, some of which date back to early times. Her work in church history was given appropriate recognition some years ago in a certificate of life membership in the Woman's Auxiliary of Lexington Presbytery.

JOHN W. WAYLAND

THE HAMMERS



Chapter I

FROM EARLY YEARS

THE FIRST HOUSE, A LOG FORT

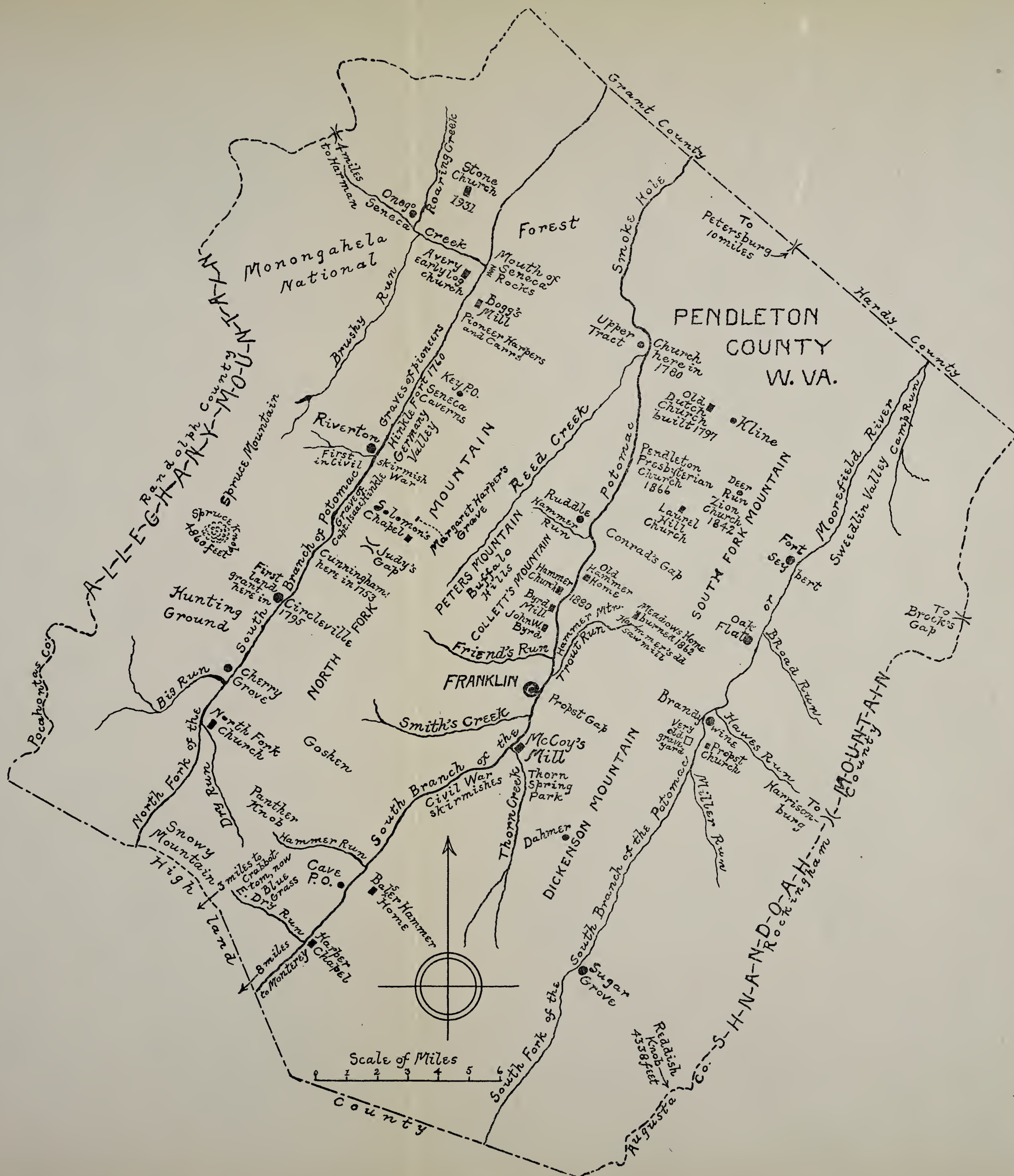
George Hammer the pioneer who bought first the 114 acres of land on the South Branch of the Potomac in 1761, then Augusta Co., Va., built a huge house of logs which was first known as a "Strong House" and by later generations as a "Frontier Fort." It was planned and furnished for defense against a constant peril from the Indians who were treacherous enemies. The walls were made bullet proof and fitted with loop-holes, or very narrow slits as viewed from the outside, but widely sloped or spread within, perhaps eighteen inches or more, to give the marksman a wide range.

The large logs were hewed or squared by hand with the means of the ax and adz. As nails were not available dowell pins were used in their stead. They were strong, wooden pegs. The corners of the logs were dovetailed together by means of the mortise and tenon. The mortise being the cavity cut, and shaped like the spreading of a dove's tail on the end of one log and the tenon was a projecting end of the other log made by cutting away the wood around it so that it fitted into the mortise, which made strong joints at the corners of the building.

There was a huge, stone chimney in the center and an open stairway in one corner. The door was wide so that a large log of wood could be rolled in and across the heavy puncheon floor into the big fireplace—thus much time being saved in the cutting of the wood.

The door was constructed of very heavy timbers with wrought iron hinges extending across its full width. There was a wooden latch with a heavy buckskin thong attached to it, being arranged with a hole above it so that the string could be extended to the outside and the latch lifted, but when drawn in no entrance could be made from the outside.

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The roof was made of heavy clapboards held firmly on by long timbers called "Ridge Poles." The roof was sturdy

and lasted for many years. This house faced the east so that the north winds did not have the power of blowing in at the door and windows which were all on the east side. Every precaution was exercised for safety in the building of this early home because only four years had elapsed since the terrible Indians raids in this Valley when parents were killed and children carried into captivity and three years since the fort at Upper Tract and Fort Seybert had been so cruelly destroyed. The South Branch Valley had been one of the favorite hunting grounds of the Indians, and although they had moved farther west, a visit from them might be expected at any time.

When the settlers first came there were no roads except the Indian trails. The Seneca Trail leading from north to south had many branches leading out from it. One of these led from Seneca Rocks by way of Upper Tract and the Harpole Gap to Fort Seybert. There was a path following along the South Branch and crossing it many times. Each crossing was called a "Ford" and named for the family living nearest to it.

There were a few families already settled in what is now Pendleton county when the Hammers came, some of the Dyer-descendants on the South Fork, the Cunninghams and Harpers on the North Fork, and others nearer were the Petersons, sometimes called Pedroes, the Conrads, Mosers, Dunkles, Mallows and a few others. The Hinkles came the same year, 1761, and built their fort in what we now know as "German Valley" on the North Fork.

One reason for their coming was that very early word got into the middle colonies, especially Pennsylvania, that the South Branch, which was called Wappatomaka by the Indians, contained very fertile soil which caused it to be sought after by hardy pioneers wishing to own farms. There were already a few cleared patches, known as "Indian gardens" along the river, but most of the valley was covered with fine timber and miles of—just silence. Fate favored their adventurous spirits and large tracts of land were gained to transmit to their children.

There were no comforts and few necessities in these early homes but the hardships, dangers and privations

gained for them personal courage and bravery.

The Caplingers came earlier and like the Hammers they had come to stay, so improvements were made and a form of local government was set up. George Hammer, with others, received his certificate of naturalization May 18, 1762, as is shown in the Chalkley Records of Augusta, Va., and in 1764 he was appointed Processioner on the South Branch. The processioners were officers invested with certain judicial and executive powers in fixing land boundaries.

His deed for his first land purchase was made May 29, 1760, by Wood and Green and joined the lands of Jonas Friend and Jacob Harper. This was before the Evicks came and before the land around what is now Franklin was taken up.

George Hammer lived for forty years in the big log house, reared his family and helped to bring about many improvements in the community. When he wished to learn the latest news he rode one of his horses across the mountain trail to the Hinkle Fort where there were sometimes soldiers quartered for drilling purposes, and the Hinkles speaking the German language were congenial friends and neighbors. There was no mail service nor were there any newspapers for this section in those early days.

He and his family lived as true patriots through the Revolutionary War.

They came for better or worse and settled to carve out their fortunes from the virgin forest. They raised their own food and fashioned their own clothing, refusing to buy any thing from the mother country. Maple trees were in abundance and they knew when to gather and how to boil the sap so as to make their sugar and molasses. There were no seed catalogues nor stores, so the women gathered seed from year to year and studied the signs of the moon so as to know when to plant to the best advantage.

A tea for every disease was grown in the gardens, so doctors were very little needed. Flax seed was planted and linen was made from the mature stalks. The fabrics of wool and linen were entirely home made, the family having become skilled in the arts of carding, spinning, weaving, dyeing and sewing.

There were no schools for these early families, so the children received only what education their parents could give them, which was a mixture of German and English—at first being mostly German.

The mother's place was definite. Her duty was to teach her children, take care of the household and live retired with her family. The daughters were taught early the importance of helping to make a living. As recreation they were taught to make beautiful quilts, weave coverlets and blankets of many patterns, and to make very interesting samplers, stitched on their own woven linen portraying important history. One that was later specialized on was the new brick court house erected in Franklin in 1817 which every girl took pride in picturing on her sampler. One of these is still in existence and is a cherished relic.

At night for light the Betty lamps were first used—a bowl with some rushes or a wick resting in oil or grease—and later the candles were made in long, tin moulds in which wicks were inserted, then hot tallow poured in and left to get cold after which the long candles were drawn out and stored in a cool place. The candle sticks made to hold the candles were mostly made of wood or tin. The few made of brass were beautiful, some of which now are cherished heirlooms as also are some of the old candle moulds. Time has passed into oblivion many things concerning this Hammer family during the forty years that they lived in the big log house, and their characters can only be attested by the posterity that has followed. True, they may not have been saints, but there were enough of the earnest and devout to make the salt for the saving of the whole social lump.

We can only guess how much of life, and death, the old house saw, how much of coming and going, and how much of love, but we know that the long years wove on Time's loom grief, joy and daring.

There are still relics preserved from these ancestors—A German Book of Psalms, a very large pewter plate, a hand-blown bottle made before George Washington became President, and a mug bearing the words "To Washington, The Patriot of America" and decorated with two screaming

eagles. The county of Pendleton was little less than a year old when the Constitution of the United States was accepted and George Washington elected President.

This pioneer Hammer lived twenty years after the close of the American Revolution. He lived during the age of the construction of the new government, which was an important but a very trying age and he was engaged in many helpful ways.

We wish that we knew more about his coming to America. There are two records, either of which might be his: In 1749 Johann Gorg Hammer arrived in Pennsylvania, on the ship *Lydia*, and in 1752 John George Hammer arrived, and in the Augusta Records there were a number of George Hammers—which plurality makes it difficult for the historian.

We have record that the George Hammer, pioneer who came here in 1761, departed this life early in 1801, having left a will dated Dec. 4, 1797, signed by his own hand in the German language. The will mentions his son Jacob Hammer to whom he willed his land "Lying over the mountain in Augusta County, near Staunton, Va.," and to each of his daughters, namely Susannah and Elizabeth, he willed the sum of one hundred pounds—Virginia Currency—to be paid to them as they came of age. To his son George (at that time 12) and to his son Henry (at that time 5) he willed his plantation that he owned and was living on, and to his wife, Susannah, he willed a full and lawful third part during her lifetime, also full possession of his dwelling house. He appointed his wife Susannah, Balsor Hammer, his kinsman, and Jacob Conrad, executrix and executors of his will, and his wife Susannah and Balsor Hammer as guardians for his children under age. His will is recorded in Will Book No. 1 in Pendleton County Clerk's office. The original will also was there before the fire of April 17, 1924, and may still be among some of the mixed papers filed there.

Of his five children I have been able to trace only the lineages of the two youngest, George and Henry, who were by his second marriage. This second wife Susannah passed away in 1824, having outlived him almost a quarter of a century. John Dice, as Administrator of her estate, gave

bond November 3, 1824, for \$500.00 and her sons George and Henry Hammer, and Thomas Miller signed as his sureties.

THE BIG GERMAN FAMILY BIBLE

When Catherine Caplinger and George Hammer the second were married she brought with her to their home a very large German Bible that her parents—or perhaps her grandparents—brought with them to this country when they came from Germany, and she had the names and birth-dates of her children written on a sheet of paper and pasted in the back of this Bible. This large Bible is bound in heavy leather with its corners reinforced with metal plates and the following Roman notation is found on one of its pages: MDCCLXXXVIII (1788).

After the death of Catherine January 10, 1847, her husband lived until April 16, 1856. On March 15, 1852, he had deeded 570 acres that he inherited from his father to his son Jacob to care for him, and Jacob and family moved in to live with him—this being the house that he had built in 1815.

Then Jacob inherited the Bible and lived in this house until his death February 4, 1898; then his daughter, Sarah, who married Reuben Dahmer as his second wife, lived there and kept the Bible until her death July 20, 1916. Then the Bible which had remained in this house about one hundred years was given to Miss Deniza C. Hammer. (Always called "Dump," as a nickname given to her when a small child by her mother, because she was so fat.) Miss Dump took it to her house where it remained until she passed away in 1922, then it was given to her sister, Ursula Hammer who kept it about nine years then gave it to her brother, Lee Hammer in Washington, D. C., and at his passing away it became the property of his daughters, Misses Sibyl and Grace Hammer, and they have it in their home at Arlington, Va.

It is a novelty to the Hammer descendants. Many of them have written their names in it, and each one of them would like to own it.



MARY ANN (HAMMER) BYRD, 1823-1899

Carbon signature from an old autograph album in 1887.

Mary Ann Byrd

1887

REMINISCENCE OF MY GRANDMOTHER,
MARY ANN HAMMER BYRD

My grandmother was the ideal of my life and I spent much time with her when I was a child. She would sometimes put her arm around me, drawing me very close, then holding me at arm's length and gazing into my face would exclaim, "You are so much like my little girl that died when she was eleven—just as old as you now are and your eyes are just like hers!" Then she would tell me about her when she was going to school in an old school house which stood in the rocky field just north of the Pawpaw spring. It was a mile to walk but she was always anxious to go as she liked her books so well, but one cold Saturday morning she complained of her throat and said that she did not want to go to school. "I told her that she must run along and not miss her lessons. As she was crossing the stile she looked back and said, "Mother, you ought not send me to school today for I might get sick and die." I was firm about her going then kept thinking about her all day and something made me feel very uneasy. She came home that evening with a very sore throat and I sent for a doctor. She developed a very bad case of diphtheria—and on the next Saturday my little girl was buried." Then grandmother would sit for a long time looking into the distance and seeming to forget that I was near. Long after this my Aunt Kate told me that she had often known of her mother going in the twilight to sit by this little grave for it was her first child and she had delighted in telling her a story after putting her to bed and sometimes she would hold her little hand until she went to sleep.

Grandmother had a remarkable memory and told me many stories. She had a full life herself, she remembered many stories that her parents had told her and many that she had read. She told me the beautiful stories of the Bible that had a lasting influence on my life.

She instilled into me a desire to learn history, especially my ancestral history and she inspired me to live a life of high aim.

Her husband died July 1, 1862 and she was left a widow at thirty-nine, with four small children to face the

hardships of the Civil War which severely taxed her endurance. Often when we sat in the twilight on the big porch at the front of her home she would relate to me thrilling narratives of the war, and she had the ability of remembering and being able to tell the humorous as well as the tragic things that occurred. Her farm being a desirable place to camp, different armies were camped with her five times. Sometimes it was "The Boys in Grey and sometimes the Boys in Blue."

When the Federal army was encamped in and near Franklin the larger part of it was located on her farm. As she was a lone widow they were very considerate and kept a guard around her house. She said that there were many nights she sat all night by her window watching the sentry passing to and fro, while her little children were in bed asleep and her floor was covered with weary officers of the army, all sleeping soundly. They always treated her with the greatest of respect and when they came in assured her that she would not be molested but said that they were so in need of sleep and rest that they must lie on her floor and they were then almost instantly sound asleep. She said that she could never describe the feeling of awe that she experienced in those terrible times. All of the fences on her farm were burned except one of new rails around the young orchard that grandfather had planted and fenced before the war came on.

She always went to the head officer and pleaded with him to have this one fence spared and it was always protected by special orders. All of her horses were taken and all of her other livestock killed for food for the soldiers, except one old cow which was her main dependence for food for her children. She told with feeling of how the fore legs of calves and sheep were cut off, so that they could not run away before they were ready to butcher them.

Then she would humorously tell about the old turkey hen which she had kept sitting so long in a secluded spot in the garden. When she was found and some of the soldiers decided to have a roast the old hen decided differently and gave them a wild chase all over the hills and valley. Grandmother and the children watched for a long time, glorying

in the old hen's skill and energy but at last when she was caught they exclaimed sadly, "Now, they ought to be satisfied for they have gotten the last thing." In after years when commenting she would say that the boys were hungry and thoughtless. When asked which side was the more destructive she always said that they were about the same—all in need of food or they would not have done such things.

She had some meal, flour and coffee which she kept hidden in her small kitchen loft. The only entrance to this small room was a secret door through which she could creep, from her north room upstairs, and every time the door was used it had to be replaced in the wall so that no eye, other than hers, could detect it; then a big home-made chest was pulled close and thus she kept her pantry so closely concealed that none of the soldiers ever found it. She had a coffee mill which the soldiers borrowed to grind their coffee and sometimes the more liberal ones left a little coffee which they said was toll for the use of the mill—but the majority of them did not leave any toll. Sometimes when an army moved away discarded coats and other clothing were left on the field and my father, John Byrd, and his brother Clay would gather and bring them to their mother who would make them clothes to wear; and father said that they were very proud, especially of the buttons. He often told about once when he was about eight and wearing one of these made over suits, a squad of "Home Guards" came riding by and in order to have some fun told him and the neighbor boys who were with him, that they would have to be arrested for wearing the uniforms.

They formed them into a line and ordered them to march to Franklin. They were trudging along with very heavy hearts, and when Jim Williams began to cry the Guards put spurs to their horses and galloped off, leaving a most bewildered set of boys. One time Clay brought in an old army coat and sitting in the lower kitchen door was trying to gouge off a button with an old iron table fork. His mother told him to be careful or he might gouge out his eye. He so nearly had his prize that he gave one more desperate punch and the fork slipped! He laid it down and went out, but before long came back, saying to her that his eye hurt.

She examined and found the sight destroyed and a part of his eyeball running out. There was no doctor available at that time so she doctored him the best she could and kept down inflammation and he was finally cured but had to go through life with only one eye.

Grandmother knew many Indian stories, some of which had been handed down by her grandfather the pioneer George Hammer. She remembered the last band of Indians that ever passed across this valley. There were twenty three in the group and they stopped at her father's house for something to eat. Her mother gave them a hearty breakfast and also gave one of the squaws a lindsey dress at the request of the young brave who said that they had just been married. There had been heavy rains and the South Branch was swollen so the Hammer family went with them to see how they would get across. They marched in a straight line, none ever looking back. The oldest squaw was the last in the line and although she stumbled and had some difficulty in getting through the current none of the others looked back nor seemed concerned about her. The groom however was more thoughtful and carried the young squaw over in his arms. They marched straight ahead toward the west and were lost to view as they crossed Collett's Mountain, near where the Hammer church was later built.

The Indian had a keen sense of direction in finding his way through the forest. When the white settlers first came there were said to be about 150 of these Indians living in villages along the streams, and while they claimed ownership to the land they occupied very little of it. They were above the average of the Indian races in intelligence. The more northern tribes respected their superiority and spoke of them as, "The Southerners" which was "Shawnee" in their language. At the beginning of the French and Indian War they were invited to move West where with other nations they allied themselves with the French. Their leader, Killbuck, with help from the French, returned at times to make raids in which they killed many of the settlers along the border of civilization.

Years after the French and Indian War was over and

almost forgotten, and the white settlers and Indians were friendly, these descendants of the Shawnees that had moved West made this trip to the happy hunting ground of their forefathers.

One of their villages had been on what was later the Hammer land and near where the Hammer Church now stands. Here was where their ancestors had lived their wild lives and here many of them were buried, and their trip here was likely motivated by their ancient custom of ancestral worship.

My grandmother attended school only four months in her life, yet for her day she was considered a woman of good education. She wrote a pretty, round hand and could spell and read better than many who had later advantages.

She loved to read and this with her perfect memory was the means of her gaining much knowledge. She was an inveterate reader and although she never had access to a public library she found means of obtaining the reading that she desired, and with her good common sense, sound judgment and good management was able to face the trying chapters of her life.

She was comely in her girlhood and various beaux sought her company, and she enjoyed relating little anecdotes about them!

She was a bride's maid at the weddings of eight of her friends and at each of these she had been able to have a silk dress, but wore a gingham when she herself was married, because, she said, "Gingham was very popular—and cost about as much as silk," and she always added with a smile, "Mine was such a pretty, silky piece."

She was attending a wedding in the old McCoy home in Franklin which stood where the modern residence now stands owned by Miss Alice McCoy, when she met my grandfather for the first time, and it was "Love at first sight" for both of them. After the wedding the bridal party rode horseback to the home of the groom where a grand reception was held, and grandfather made it suit to ride near her, and thus they got acquainted!

He was an expert millwright and had come here to supervise the building of the mill at the Mouth of the

Thorn for General McCoy. He often explained that he had not intended to stay here long, but after meeting the perfect girl he never wanted to go back. They were married January 4, 1849. He built a good home and a mill of his own and the thirteen and a half years that they lived together were very happy ones. Another of grandmother's early admirers was a man by the name of Robin Eye who became jealous when she began going with young Byrd, and when he saw her he said, "I hear that the Byrds are getting very fond of your father's cherries."

This being cherry season, and her father having a large cherry orchard, she replied with enthusiasm, "Oh, yes, they are, especially these old robins!" This became quite a joke as her thoughtless answer had outwitted herself as well as Robin.

Her mother died January 10, 1847. They had been sewing during the evening and talking together. She was sewing on a quilt and her mother was making an apron and when it was finished she came near to watch her work a short time and remarked upon how beautifully she could sew. Then she retired and grandmother worked awhile longer. Before retiring she looked in upon her mother and thought to pull the cover up over her shoulder, then for fear of waking her did not. An hour or two after she had gone to her room she heard her father calling and ran to their room to find that her mother was dead. He had taken her hand to put it under the cover and found it cold. Grandmother always thought that if she had done the same she would have found that her mother's peaceful sleep was the sleep of death. My mother's mother, Catherine Capliner Hammer, Jr. then a girl of eight years, was staying with them on that particular night and in the excitement got out of bed and crept under it and after some time was found suffering with cold and fright, and this was the experience my grandmothers had together a third of a century before I was born!

After her mother's death my grandmother kept house for her father for two years and when she decided to get married he told her that he had given his four older daughters each a big wedding but as he was now getting old and



BED THAT BELONGED TO JAMES W. AND MARY ANN BYRD

The hand made awning and counterpane with their dainty decorations were made by her in 1849. This picture, taken in 1916, shows them to be in good condition after so many years.

tired of great occasions, if she would have a quiet wedding he would give her wool to make forty yards of carpet. She accepted his offer and spun the chain, and the wool for the filling and wove a most beautiful carpet. She already had spun wool and woven a number of blankets, coverlets and many yards of beautiful lindsey for comforters which she filled with batted wool. These were in use through three generations. At her sale in 1899 my father bought some of them and gave them to me. She made dozens of quilts, flossed counterpanes and canopies for the highposter beds. She wove linen for beautiful table covers, sheets and bed-ticks, raised geese and picked their feathers for beds and pillows.

Years later, I remember watching her pick her geese, and of what a job it was! It was of all importance to know when the feathers were ripe and ready to pick but such knowledge as this was a part of her education. The geese were penned and one taken at a time and it would put up great resistance and not surrender until its head was securely tucked under her arm, then the picking would proceed.

I have one of her beds, now made into a porch seat. I often slept with her in this bed when I was a child and I remember how I would climb upon a stool then jump into the depths of the great feather tick. She would blow out the oil lamp and I would hear her talking and knew that she was praying. I have a large china saucer and a bottle decorated with a Revolutionary soldier that my Grandfather Byrd brought from his home which was near the Peaks of Otter, on the James river, in Virginia. He cherished these because they had belonged to his mother, Mary Coffman Byrd, and he remembered that as a cure-all she always kept camphor in the bottle. His mother died November 18, 1849 which was less than a year after he was married. He made a cane in 1841 the head of which was from the antler of a deer that he had killed and on it he engraved his name and date and his workmanship proves that he had the skill of an artist.

After his passing this was always kept as an heirloom and my father, when a small lad, wished to place his name

by that of his father's as they had the same initials. When he was getting the middle letter fairly started his mother appeared on the scene, and after shaming him for defacing his father's cane, hid it away and it was so long before he ever saw it again that he had lost his desire for carving and so his initials were never finished. I appreciate the many relics but I treasure most grandmother's noble, Christian life that she left as a pattern for her descendants. In her later years I often accompanied her to the graveyard on the hill where, 'Byrd and Demarius were sleeping'. She often pointed out the spot where she would be buried and seemed to be just waiting for the time to come when she could be with them. She taught me many beautiful truths about death and eternal life which make me now realize what a beautiful and trusting faith she had. She was an active Christian and a great church-going woman and I remember what a privilege I considered it to be able to sit by her in church.

My first recollection of a church service is looking up into her face and feeling so bewildered about the words that she was singing: "When this Poor, Lispings, Stammering Tongue Lies Silent in the Grave." I loved to hear her voice but I did not like the words!

For a long time the Hammers and their neighbors worshiped in the old log school house that stood near the spring. In 1879 they decided that they wanted a church so grandmother and her two brothers Jacob and George Hammer the Third and their families assumed the responsibilities and the building was finished in 1880 and has ever since been known as "The Hammer Church." Rev. Daniel Yount of Weyers Cave, Virginia had organized the congregation and was then their pastor coming at stated times with his wife and son to hold meetings. Rev. Henry Dickenson was the local preacher and performed the marriages and preached the funerals for several generations. As grandmother lived near the church she nearly always entertained the ministers when they came to hold meetings. On one occasion her daughters were greatly amused at their aged, local preacher, who was considered one of the family when present in their home. The Virginia ministers did not come

often and when they did there was a great deal of preparation and the best linen and china were put into use. On one such occasion the meal was over and the guests were departed when the local preacher came in and was invited to eat, giving him of the bountiful supply that was left. Not knowing the situation he very meekly asked the blessing then surveying the contents on the table said, "Sister, Sister! you should not worship your pastor thus!"

Grandmother lived, loved and labored in this world for seventy-six years. She was strong spiritually, mentally and physically. Her first illness came a year before she died when she had a light stroke of paralysis. She recovered from this and though frail was able to attend to many of her household duties that she loved so well.

On Friday night, March 10, 1899, she seemed unusually well when she retired but in the morning when her daughter called to her she found that her awakening had been in another world, and by the smile of peace and recognition on her face we knew that she had met her Pilot, face to face and we realized that she was not, for God had taken her! What a beautiful transit!

*"Think of stepping on shore and finding it Heaven!
Of taking hold of a Hand and finding it God's Hand;
Of breathing new air and finding it Celestial Air;
Of feeling invigorated and finding it Immortality;
Of passing from storm and tempest to an unknown calm—
Of waking and finding it the everlasting Home!"*

AN INTERESTING TRIP TO THE SITE OF THE UPPER TRACT FORT

Having often heard about Upper Tract Fort which was destroyed by Indians early in 1758, I went to investigate the location which I found about a mile south-east of the present village of Upper Tract.

Samuel C. Morrel at the time owned the land and he and his grandson and son-in-law, who was a surveyor, went with me and we found the location on the west bank of the South Branch of the Potomac River.

Marks of the foundation of the fort were yet to be seen. A depression in the center ground indicated that

there was cellar or underground place in which to store ammunition and other necessities.

In this depression, long sodded over, we unearthed part of an old iron lid to a Dutch oven, badly oxidized.

One proof of the location of the fort is the supply of flint arrow heads that have been found around it. For a long time there seemed to be no limit to their number. As the making these required time and patience the Indians did not use them wastefully so this siege may have lasted for a long time.

The site which once knew this fort and its sad history has an interesting location. Its lying on a bend in the river and on a high bank gave its commander an advantage over the enemy. It lies in an almost direct line between the Greenawalt Gap and the Reeds Creek Gap through which ran the Indian trail. This trail crossed from Fort Seybert to Upper Tract by way of the Siple's Place and the Harpole Gap thence by the way of Reeds Creek Gap, by the Joel Harmon Path over the North Fork Mountain and through the Roy Gap to the Mouth of Seneca, where it leads by a branch to the noted Seneca Trail.

It was by this trail that the band of Indians departed after their terrible slaughter at Fort Seybert the day following that at Upper Tract.

It was on the 27th of April, 1758, that a band of forty or more Indians, coming by way of the Seneca War Path, surprised and laid siege to the Upper Tract Fort which they totally destroyed.

Since all of the twenty-two inmates, including Captain James Dunlap the Commander, were killed, no one was left to give an account of the battle between the cruel and treacherous redskins and the people within the fort, nor of the terrible suffering which must have been theirs.

TO SPRUCE KNOB

It has been my pleasure on two occasions to climb to the top of Spruce Knob, which is 4860 feet and of outstanding interest, because it is the highest pinnacle in West Virginia. It makes observers feel that they are standing on top of the world. There you can look out over the great

panoramic view with its many thousands acres of mountains spreading in all directions as far as the eye can see. rising in undulations like huge billows on the ocean.

Spruce Knob is on Spruce Mountain, a range paralleling the Alleghany mountain, and when on Spruce on a clear day nine counties in Virginia and West Virginia can be looked down upon.

Toward the east I looked across the full width of the county of Pendleton to the great Shenandoah mountain, the boundary between Virginia and West Virginia, and I could plainly see the State Highway, looking like a pale blue ribbon, as it winds up the Shenandoah mountain.

Through gaps in the mountains I could see Massanutten mountain, also the Blue Ridge in softer and dimmer lines.

On the Southwest is the noted Sinks country where the Gandy river begins its mysterious journey through a natural tunnel beneath Randolph county mountains. To the west I beheld the Alleghany mountains, the dividing line between Pendleton and Randolph Counties.

The land surrounding Spruce Knob is a part of the Monongahela National Forest and under the regulation of the U. S. Forestry Service. Roads have been built and improvements made.

Leaving Route 5 a little south of the village of Riverton, one drives nine and a half miles, winding through Timber Ridge, gradually climbing until the top of Spruce Knob is reached.

While there I visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mozy Bennett which is noted for being the highest home in West Virginia. Mr. Bennett, a member of the Forestry Service, gave interesting and valuable information. Things that I marveled about were the never failing ice cold springs of clear water gushing out on this great eminence!

One is on the top and one at the Bennett home.

The Bennetts, who have a good home with modern conveniences, are congenial and hospitable. Mrs. Bennett, as she showed me on the inside of her large spring house, which has a trough filled with the running, ice cold water, said, "You see that we do not need a refrigerator up here."

Chapter II

HAMMERS, HARPERS, AND HINKLES

THE HAMMER FAMILY REUNION OF 1870

February 20, 1870, the George and Mary (Harper) Hammer Family assembled for their family reunion after a long separation, and their eleven children were all together for the last time. There were no in-laws then, but many of them married soon after, so changes in the family came rapidly. William Harrison Hammer returned only once to visit his native home in the forty years that he lived in Ohio, and it was on this occasion when he returned with his brother George W. who was returning from Kansas, where he had been since the close of the Civil War. After the usual feasting on such occasions, and the happy time visiting, the father asked them to assemble in the big reception room where he talked with them, admonishing each to live a good life so that they could be a reunited family in the next world, and he presented to each one a large Mexican dollar for a keepsake. These coins dated 1787 were ones that he had received from his father, George Hammer II, and they had been kept all through the Civil War and the depression that followed. His father had kept them in the big chest that came from over the sea. During the Civil War they were buried in a deep hole by the river with brush piled high over it. Later they were kept in a secret box built under the winding stairway in the corner of the home, then after war dangers were past he transferred them to his big desk from which he took them for this memorable occasion. This desk descended to the son named George in each generation. Let us turn back the pages of time and look in upon the family as they were assembled.

The terrible stress of the war between the States was now over and these grown sons, all yet single, are facing the future and planning to go away from under the home roof to make homes of their own. The father is nearing his fifty-fourth year and the mother her fifty-second. They

have been married a little over thirty-three years and have reared a family of eleven healthy children. The eldest, Sarah Jane, is thirty-two and the old maid of the family but is soon to marry and move to the faraway State of Kansas—a border territory. The parents are sad, realizing how they will miss her, for she has been their main help during the trying years when the sons were away in the service of their country.

Their second child, Catherine, now thirty-one, has been left a widow with three small children that have been taken with her under the old, home roof. Next came the five stalwart sons—four of which were soldiers—William Harrison 29, Leonard Harper 27, George Washington 25, Benjamin Stickley 24, Isaac Cunningham 19. Then came two daughters, Phebe Ann 17, Hannah Ellen 13; then John Cunningham 11 and Ida Lee 9.

I always marveled at the patience and gentleness of my great-grandmother Hammer. The years of hard work, the stress of the war and of rearing her large family had seemed to sweeten her in a beautiful way. Her great faith and her ordered life portrayed the beauty of a life hid with Christ in God. She was my congenial companion until I was twenty-seven and her influence has helped me in many ways.

This may be said for the mentality of age, that old people grow kinder in their judgment of others. They are able to comprehend, even if not to pardon, the sins and faults of others.

“Perchance in old age we shall find what we seek,
When life’s fires have burned low and the spirit is meek,
And memory comes to transport us away
To Arcadian isles of our loved yesterday.

“Oh! the paths they are many we seek to this goal,
This stronghold of rest and peace in the soul;
We may search everywhere, the wide world around—
It is only within us this kingdom is found”

Great-grand-mother was fifteen at the time of the fam-

ous meteoric shower—or the falling of the stars—on the night of November 13, 1833, and although she lived into her 88th year this thrilling experience was ever vivid in her memory, when folks thought that the world was coming to an end and spent the night in praying and weeping.

She told us of her wedding which took place October 27, 1836, at her parent's residence eight miles south of what is now Circleville. It was in a small log house with no upstairs windows, and she pulled aside one of the clapboards in the roof when she looked to see if the groom and his party were coming in sight.

The following is a copy of the original marriage bond which was rescued from the 1924 fire in Franklin and later given to me.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS,
That we, Leonard Harper and George Hammer are held firmly bound, unto Wyndham Robertson, Esq., Governor of Virginia and his successor, to be paid to the said Governor or his successor in office, the which payment and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs to jointly or severly by these presents, sealed with our seals and dated the 21 day of October, 1836.

The condition of the above obligation is such that, Whereas, there is a marriage shortly intended to be solemnized between the above bound George Hammer, Jr., and Mary Harper of this county.

Now if there be no lawful cause to obstruct the said marriage then the above obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed and delivered in the presence of Zebulon Dyer, Clerk of Pendleton County Court.

George Hammer (Seal)

Leonard Harper (Seal)

The marriage bond is filled in with the use of the quill and the letters are small. It is yellow with age and not easy to read.

Both of the fathers signed their names in a bold hand.

Leonard Harper was building a new house which was finished not long after the wedding and his youngest daughter, Katherine, was born November 27th of that year in

the new house. She lived to a great age and often teased her sister about not wanting her at her wedding!

It was a few years later that Leonard Harper brought to his farm the first mowing machine that was ever in Pendleton County. His grandson, George W. Hammer, remembered that when a small lad he went with his Uncle Jacob Harper, (who later was a soldier and lost his life in the Civil War) to haul home the machine. They went in a "Half moon" wagon and drove six horses (He said that they were real horses, too). They drove north over what was called, "Crow's Ridges" then a very rough trail, to New Creek, a station which later became Keyser.

When the machine, which had a large wooden cutter bar, was put to work the neighbors from far and near came to see the miracle, for they could scarcely believe that it would cut. Until that time the grass in this county had been cut with the scythe and sickle.

Great-grandmother Hammer told me that she remembered the first carriage that was ever brought to the South Branch Valley. She said that it was owned by their neighbor, James Dyer Ruddle whose wife was Elizabeth Hammer—and that it was a large affair and attracted much attention as it rocked and rolled along the rough road.

George and Mary (Harper) Hammer went to house-keeping in 1836 in a log house on the northern part of the Hammer Plantation, in which they lived all of their long and useful lives. They had no furniture, so he made what they needed from time to time. He built a carpenter shop and made a turning lathe that he operated with his foot and made a great deal of furniture—bureaus, tables, chairs, chests and other things, many of which are yet in the homes of his descendants. He also made coffins and kept a separate book for these accounts of his sales—the prices of solid walnut coffins ranged from one dollar to seven or eight dollars. He wrote well for his day and was very particular in the keeping of all his accounts.

My father, John W. Byrd, was the administrator of his estate after his death and his old books were left in his hands and I have some of them which reveal the above statements.

I was his first great-grandchild and when I was about five years old he made me a small arm chair which I still have. He did not put rockers on my chair, as he did for his grand-daughter, Linnie Hammer, who was my playmate, and I remember distinctly how much I, secretly, wanted the rockers. Likely, if I had made my wishes known I could have had them.

He made a set of chairs for my parents when they went to housekeeping and after half a century they were still in use in the home of a man who bought them at my father's sale. It seemed that his chairs were made to last through several generations. He also built for himself a blacksmith's shop and became very efficient in its many avenues of usefulness. I remember both his shops quite well, but now they are only pictured in memory. I have as relics the first stove and other things that he made for use in their home. The stove was called a "Spit" and by setting it over the hot coals in the big fireplace it was used on which to fry foods. Three big pots hung in the chimney from cranes and the cooking was done largely in these pots. Later he made a real cooking stove, and he made a stove for use in the school house that gave good service for many years. He made wagons and sleighs; also made the first hay rake that was operated with the use of a horse and when it turned over by a special device left the hay in windrows. Other rakes were copied from his and finally some company got a patent and my father had one of the later models, and as a very small youngster I rode the horse when my father raked the hay. He often said that "Uncle George should have had the honor, at least, of the patent." I remember of seeing the original rake at one time and it was then that my father told me about it.

One of the great-granddaughters, Mrs. Clarice Layton of Leroy, Kansas, visited the old home after it was deserted and as a relic carried home one of the large hand made iron pot-hooks shaped like the letter S that hung from the crane in the large fireplace.

Through the blood that flowed in the veins of Mary (Harper) Hammer her descendants trace their lines back to their pioneer ancestors—the Cunninghams, Hinkles and

Harpers—the first settlers on the North Fork, then a part of Augusta county, Virginia, and an unbroken forest which later became the county of Pendleton.

John Cunningham came with two brothers and his father from Dublin, Ireland. A Petro family came about the same time. Their daughter Mary became the wife of John Cunningham, and, although that part of the country was exposed to the dangers of frontier life and Indian warfare, they were interested in opening up the wilderness and laying the foundation for a new country.

About 1757, when terrible Indian depredations began in this and surrounding regions, these young people were carried into captivity.

The father was murdered but the life of the mother was spared because of her condition. She soon gave birth to a daughter which she named Mary, after herself.

It was not until 1764 that a respite was given to the frontier. Then the Indians were required to give up their captives and history states that fifty-eight women and children were restored to their former places of residence. Then Mary Cunningham brought her daughter back to what had been her cabin home on the North Fork. The Hinkles had come to the North Fork and built a fort in 1761 for their own and the neighbors protection. John Justus Hinkle, Sr., the pioneer father, had a family of four sons and eight daughters when he came and he desired an education for them, so established a school in the fort. His youngest child, named Isaac, was about seven and remembered well that first day of school. The children who lived near were gathered into the school and Isaac, in his elderly life, told his granddaughter, Mary Harper Hammer, how he admired the little Mary Cunningham who was near his age. He always remembered her beauty and how she was dressed on that first day, in a short gown and petticoat which was then the style.

A romance was continued until he married her on December 13, 1781. They lived long and useful lives and reared a family of five sons and four daughters. He served in public life for fifty years. As a presiding justice he helped to organize both Rockingham and Pendleton counties. He

helped to make the laws and to bring about many improvements. He was a captain in the Revolutionary War and later a member of the Virginia Assembly in 1807.

He passed to his reward in November 1824 and was buried on a high hill on his estate near where he had lived and reared his family.

The writer, who joined the Daughters of the American Revolution on his services as a captain, had a Government Marker erected at his grave November 6, 1944, and this was the verse dedicated to the occasion:

“On the green hill above North Fork stream
We set today a marble stone
That memory his deeds may redeem
When like our sire our sons are gone.”

His daughter, Phebe, married Leonard Harper and lived to see more than four-score years. She was my great-great-grandmother and one who nursed me when I was a child. Their home was eight miles south of what is now Circleville where they owned a farm and reared a large family. They were folks who read the Bible and lived Christian lives which I realize now as one of my cherished heritages. I have had the privilege of reading in their big, leather-bound Bible and in being interested in the records written in it.

Leonard was a son of Jacob and Margaret (Simmons) Harper and a grandson of Philip Harper whose wife was Ann Elizabeth Dice, a daughter of Mathias and Eve (Harper) Dice.

The plurality of Jacobs and Philips in this line of Harpers caused the writer hours of research work.

THE NAME HARPER

The source of the name was from an occupation.

Sir Walter Scott told in his historical romances the position the harper held in medieval times.

The Harpers were traveling bards or entertainers who derived their sustenance from the donations of the nobility; men who traveled about from castle to castle chanting their songs of history and tradition.

They were by no means looked down upon as persons of inferior position. They were lionized and respected in

much the same fashion that the professional musician is today and they lived by their work the same as did the authors, physicians and members of other respected professions. In those days it was not possible to commercialize art and virtually all members of professional and artistic callings had to rely upon the patronage of some member of the nobility for their support.

Personal names originated soon after the invention of spoken language. First only one word, like a convenient label, distinguished one man from another. Later it passed on and became the symbol, not of one man but a family.

The Coat of Arms was a sacred emblem of family name and honor, and is prized today as a symbol of distinguished ancestry. It was used as a personal stamp or seal in place of a signature when few could read and write. It was embroidered on the coat worn over the coat of mail, and from that originated the name, "Coat of Arms."

At an early age the Cross was also used as a Seal. It represented the Crucifix and was kissed by the one who signed, thus making his signature genuine. Later it came to designate the place where the paper was kissed and sweethearts sometimes used it to convey messages! A poet later receiving such a message was inspired to write a little verse, "Say I'm weary, say I'm sad, Say that health and wealth have missed me. Say I'm growing old, but add, Jennie kissed me!"

THE HINKLE REUNION

About a thousand or more descendants of Pioneer John Justus Hinkle, Sr., gathered September 29, 1936, to dedicate markers erected at the site of the Hinkle Fort and at the graves of John Justus, Sr., and his wife, Magdalena (Eschman) Hinkle.

The President of the Hinkle Family Association, Hon. Burt Brown Barker of Portland, Oregon, came to give the address of the day. Dr. C. O. Miller of New Market, Va., Treasurer of the Association, and other officers were present. Descendants of the large families have scattered far and near and on this great occasion nearly every State in the Union was represented.

The marker for the fort is a seven and a half foot

shaft of Georgia granite and made in the shape of an Indian arrow. Its decoration is a replica of a Colonial Block House of logs and of a Colonial flint rifle. The front side of the huge arrow has a smooth surface which bears the inscription, "HINKLE'S FORT."

About the year 1761-1762 John Justus Hinckle, Sr., built a block house as a home for his family and a protection against the Indians. It became a nucleus for a colonial frontier fort, later used by Continental forces during the Revolution, and was called "Hinkle's Fort."

John Justus, Sr., was born February 10, 1706, in Germany and came to America in 1717 with his parents, Rev. Anthony Jacob and Maria Elizabeth Hinkle, who, with their seven children, settled in what is now Montgomery, Pa., where John Justus grew to manhood. Later he married and lived there until the heavy migration from the mother country caused the price of land to become high, so he decided to move where large tracts were to be bought at low prices. About 1750 he sold his property and migrated to North Carolina where he settled in what later became Davidson County, N. C.

After living there about ten years the Indian depredations became so serious that he again moved his family and settled in a frontier of West Augusta which later became Rockingham county, Virginia, and today is Pendleton county, West Virginia.

He first built a large block house which was a refuge for his family and the few neighbors that had already settled near.

At first the Indians were friendly, but as more of their land was taken they became dangerous, so a stockade for protection was built around the blockhouse and it did not suffer the cruel destiny of Fort Seybert and Fort Upper Tract.

The Hinkle Family is one of the few that can boast of the perpetuation of its name in a fort of Pre-Revolutionary days.

The marker is not only a memorial to the Hinkle Families, but to all brave, adventurous pioneers who helped to carve this great country out of the wilderness.



CURTIS J. BOGGS

Who is in the ninth Hinkle Generation in Pendleton county, posed for his picture.

Chapter III

"THAT MAN RESEMBLES THEE"

PROOF THAT GOD LEADS HIS CHILDREN

My mother often expressed her faith in the Guiding Hand of God and could relate a number of instances which proved her belief.

When she was a very small girl her grandfather George Hammer the third with whom she lived after the death of her father, often took her with him when he went to salt his cattle, letting her ride on the horse with him. On one particular day they had crossed the Hammer Mountain to what he called, "The Mill Place" because he had a sawmill there. While they were there a heavy thunder storm came up and they rode under a large tree for shelter which served very well—but after a time he suddenly rode out into the rainstorm and when she exclaimed, "Grandfather why are you coming out into the rain!" He said, "I do not know—but Something tells me that we must move on."

They had ridden away perhaps two hundred yards when lightning struck the large tree and tore it into splinters! She always concluded this narrative by saying, "Suppose grandfather had not listened to that Voice—Premonition!"

A SERIOUS ACCIDENT

As related in a letter of September 18, 1883, written by Phebe M. Byrd to her sister Mary Colaw of Crabbottom, Virginia.

"Cousin Ike" (I. D. Hammer) was miraculously saved from being killed one week ago by his pet bull.

A Mr. Jones came through this county buying bulls and bought his which had always been so gentle, but when Ike went into the field to drive the bull out it charged him, knocking him over and hooking him in the side and then tossing him high into the air. When he came down headforemost striking the bull it pawed and bruised him very sev-

erely and would have killed him had not Mr. Jones, in the emergency, turned the other bulls in, and when the enraged bull ran to fight them he put the unconscious man over the fence and rushed out himself. Cousin Mary and daughter Texie rushed to the scene and helped to carry him to the house thinking that he had been killed.

The bulls all went on a rampage and tore up the ground where he had lain.

After a week he is still very ill and not able to move himself in the bed and his doctor is very anxious about his recovery.

Copied from a letter published in the MOUNTAIN NEWS, the Pendleton county paper, May 28, 1886 titled, "A Supernatural Rescue" by Lee Hammer. I take the pleasure of giving you a correct statement of our miraculous escape as follows: Having been on a visit to relatives and friends in Rockingham county, Virginia, for a week, my wife, baby and I with a new buggy tied behind the one in which we were traveling, left Bridgewater, Virginia, last Saturday a week ago starting for home. As there is a round-about way by which we would have escaped Dry River which had lately been full, we inquired of folks who knew the river and were advised that there could be no danger and so much time would be saved, so we went up the river as directed and crossed the first three fords without any trouble and as the water was getting more shallow each time we did not apprehend any danger in crossing the last ford as it looked wider and more shallow than the others, but we were sadly deceived, for near the shore where we were to go out of the water there had been a five foot ditch cut out by the current and as the water was not clear and the ditch in no way marked by the current the horse blundered into it and we were drawn into the deepest part at the moment we were aware of its existence. One tug and one shaft broke which made it impossible for the horse to hold his position though he got his forefeet out of the ditch for a short minute, then the current pulled both of the buggies and the horse about ten steps down the stream, then the horse was thrown against the buggy mashing one wheel to pieces. I managed to get near enough to cut the horse loose

as he was under water with his back down stream. As he arose both buggies turned over with my wife, baby and myself. As we went over I luckily caught the baby by the arm but could do nothing for my wife for it was with the greatest difficulty that I escaped being caught under the wreckage. And I was compelled to follow down in the current for fifty yards before I could get out with the baby, then I left him alone on the bank and rushed back into the water to rescue my wife—though not having the least idea that life could exist beneath the groans of the waters and the buggies for so long a time. At the instant I approached the wreckage it lodged against a large rock and my wife got her head above the water for the first time since she went under. Later measuring the distance found it to be eighty yards that she was held under the water. It was with difficulty that I got her loosened and carried her to the shore. She was not strangled and when she became conscious and got her breath she inquired about little Dee and would not believe that he had been spared until she saw him. She is badly bruised and her face badly scratched by the rocks as she was washed along.

We thank God for our rescue for we attribute it only to His Providence. And we thank the people who later so kindly helped us to get our belongings out of the river.

A VERY CLOSE CALL

(Copied from the Pendleton Times)

On Sunday evening, May 16, 1915, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Boggs and two small daughters were returning home from Brandywine where they had spent the night with Mrs. Boggs' Aunt, Mrs. Kate Trumbo.

They were driving two young horses and when descending the steep hill near Ernest Bolton's the line got fast under a tug which caused the horses to plunge over the steep bank into the water. The folks were penned under the buggy but Mr. Boggs held on to the lines which held the horses down and kept them from running which would have dragged out the lives. When they made a struggle to rise Mrs. Boggs was enabled to work herself from under the wreckage except that her foot was held firmly. When they made the second struggle one horse got almost to his feet

which freed her and with very great effort she got hold of the baby as it floated out in the water. The other child was still fast between the buggy tongue and the other horse. When they made another struggle to rise she was loosened and Mrs. Boggs got hold of her and managed to get them both to the edge of the rough bank just as the buggy tongue broke and the buggy went over the backs of the horses and stood on its top. This loosened Mr. Boggs who still had hold of the lines and just at this time Mr. and Mrs. Bolton arrived on the scene. He helped with getting the horses out and she took Mrs. Boggs and the children to her home and gave them dry clothing. Later Mrs. Isaac Wagoner who lived near took them to her home where they spent the night. Mr. Boggs and Mr. Wagoner got another buggy and drove the team on to Franklin and Mrs. Boggs and the children came the next day. This rescue was miraculous for outside of Mrs. Boggs having a sprained arm and a lot of bruises none of them seemed much worse for the terrible ordeal.

It has always been a tradition that George Hammer, the pioneer settler, had a Brother Henry, and I find quoted from the *Rockingham Register* of February 20, 1841, published in the Rockingham County Historical Recorder, the following: Henry Hammer, Sr., aged 88 years died in Rockingham county. His first service as a soldier was against the Indians on the northwest frontier under Capt. Cravens of Rockingham Co.—subsequently he was engaged in the war of the Revolution. His will was proven in April 1841 and witnessed by Jacob Conrad, James Dean and John Fray. The will was partly burned in 1864. From the above dates he could have been the brother referred to above.

In the summer of 1890 my mother took Don, then eight years old, with her and drove in a buggy to Virginia to visit her father's people. While there they spent a day at McGaheysville with Miss Phenie Hammer who lived with her father Henry Hammer, then an aged gentleman. His son Newton Hammer also lived with him and had two sons a little older than Don. Their names were Harry and Ludie Hammer, and in after years they became prominent physicians. This Henry who married Margaret Hawkins was a

son of Henry Hammer, Sr., who was said to have been a drummer boy in the Revolution, also a soldier in the War of 1812.

Other Hammer Families

I visited Mrs. Mary Catherine (Hammer) Young, who lived with her daughter, Mollie—Mrs. James R. Shipman—in Bridgewater, Va. Mrs. Young, born in 1840, told me that her father, John Hammer, came from West Virginia and married Sarah Erman. Mary Catherine married Isiah Young who came from New England to teach school and settled near Montezuma, Va. He was a genius and in his spare time worked on models of machines. He made the model of a reaper with cutter bar and guards that have not been much improved upon. Not having the sixty dollars then needed to get a patent he contacted Cyrus McCormick who bought his model and immediately had it patented. (Note was made of this in *The Pocahontas Times* published by Andy Price in 1928.)

Through a picture that I took of George W. Hammer on horseback, in his 92nd year, and had published in 1936, I got in touch with a number of Hammers who were hunting for Hammer history. Letters were received from a George W. Hammer of Modale, Iowa, who sent his picture; and Scott U. Hammer of Bedford, Pa., wrote, sending me his Hammer lines with the privilege of copying them. His record gave the names of a number of ships that brought the early Hammers to America and many of the given names are similar to the ones in our families, but connections could not be determined.

From land records there were a number of the early Hammers settled in Washington county, Maryland.

Scott U. Hammer was born June 10, 1866, and was a son of Rev. William Hammer.

I found a very interesting record in "The New Century Book of Facts, about Leading Inventors of the World." Page 1353—William Joseph Hammer born 1858, an American maker of radium luminous preparations used in watch and clock dials for seeing time in the dark, and perfecter of electrical instruments in connection with the Edison Company. He was born in Pennsylvania, educated in New-

ark, New Jersey, and in technical schools abroad. He became associated with Mr. Edison in 1879 and in 1881 became the chief engineer of the London branch office. He supervised electrical exhibits at several World Exhibitions.

ALL THAT I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FIND
ABOUT OUR LOST JACOB

In Pendleton county Clerk's office, Will Book No. 3, page 78, I find the following account and settlement as filed by his guardian.

JACOB HAMMER, Dr. to PALSER HAMMER, HIS GUARDIAN.

Apr. 10, 1801, To 7 days spent getting your land released from Lamb, 1 pound & 8 shillings.

Apr. 10, 1802, To 3 days attending to rent of said laid, 1 pound & 4 shillings.

Apr. 10, 1802, To paid for writing, and whiskey, to rent said land, 1 Pound and 17 shillings.

Apr. 10, 1805, To three days renting said land, 1 pound and four shillings.

In 1808 To three days traveling with you to show said land, 1 pound and four shillings.

In 1809 To three days collecting the money, rent for said land, 1 Pound and four shillings.

TOTAL CHARGED, 7 pounds and 1 shilling.

At a court held for Pendleton county April 3, 1810, this amount between Palser Hammer, Guardian for Jacob Hammer, and the said Jacob Hammer was presented to court and examined and ordered to be recorded. Teste, Z. Dyer, Clerk of Courts.

(The total amount for the guardian's service would have been \$34.26).

In old marriage book in Pendleton county Clerk's office I find the marriage of Elizabeth Hammer to Israel Friend on October 20, 1811.

The parents' names to the contracting parties in a marriage were not given until about 1850, so I have no way of ascertaining that this Elizabeth was the daughter of the pioneer George Hammer, but from date of his will she

would have been of marriageable age at that time.

Palser Hammer had a daughter Elizabeth that married Isaac Friend in 1812.

THERE LIVED A MAN!

“Once in the flight of ages past
There lived a man—and who was he?
Mortal, however thy lot is cast,
That man resembles thee.

He suffered, but his pangs are o’er;
Enjoyed, but his delights are fled;
Had friends—his friends are now no more:
And foes—his foes are dead.

He saw whatever thou hast seen;
Encountered all that troubles thee;
He was whatever thou hast been;
He is what thou shalt be.

The annals of the human race,
Their ruins since the world began
Of him afford no other trace
Than this—There lived a Man.”

(Montgomery)

The pioneer, Samuel Caplinger, came with his family from Germany to Philadelphia about 1750. He then migrated to what later became Pendleton county and was the first settler here by that name. He died here in 1769 and his estate was appraised by Francis Evick, George Hammer and Jacob Peterson and the administrators of his estate were George Hammer and George Dice. His son George Hans Caplinger who also settled here was a soldier in the French and Indian War 1754 to 1760 and died in 1773. He had a son George living in Pendleton county and relieved from military duty in 1792 on account of physical disability, and died at the age eighty-five years and he and his wife Elizabeth (Dice) are buried in the Jake Hammer graveyard, four miles north of Franklin, and their graves are marked with marble stones. He was allowed claims for supplies furnished the American Armies during the Revolutionary

War. His wife who died in 1809 at the age of fifty-nine years was a daughter of George Dice a pioneer settler who came here with his brothers John and Mathias Dice from York county, Pa., about 1757. This George Dice died 1772 at his home near the mouth of Friends Run. George and Elizabeth Caplinger had a family of two sons and six daughters. I found all of their original marriage bonds in the Pendleton county Clerk's office and proved that my grandmother was quite correct in the names and dates which she gave me.

When George Hammer the second built and moved to his new home in 1816 his brother, Henry lived in the big log house until his untimely death Dec. 12, 1827 in his thirty fifth year.

He was survived by his wife and three children—John, Adam and Christina—and his wife who survived him by thirty years lived with the son John who built a large frame house near the old one, and it stood for many years and was always known as “The John Hammer House.”

That portion of fertile bottom land with both of these houses descended from Henry to his son John Hammer who married the third time but had living children only by his first wife who was Matilda Bolton a daughter of Jacob and Dorothy Bolton. John and Matilda and her parents are buried on the west side of the South Branch at what later was the Ike Davis place, where he built a home and a barn and now the grave yard lies between the barn and the river. In 1920 the public highway was built through this farm and runs by the house and barn.

John Hammer's children were Sallie Ann, who married Jacob P. Wagoner, and Deniza C. (“Nide”), who married Harry Harold, a son of John T. and Margaret McCoy Harold. Sallie Ann inherited for her portion of her father's estate the above mentioned land and in 1887 it was sold to my father, John W. Byrd, who owned it until the time of his death in 1905. The location is about two and a half miles northeast of Franklin, on the South Branch of the Potomac. As a ten-year-old I sometimes played in the old log house with the children of the tenants, Philander Bowers and Adam Simmons, who lived in the John Hammer

house and worked for my father.

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Finally, the old log house seemed of no further use and my father had it torn down in 1890 and buildings erected from it on his home place on the other side of the river. I remember well the wide door with its iron hinges that was used for our wash house. Later there came a flood and washed it all away and we had a newer and better wash-house built.

Deciding that it did not pay to have tenants living on his property, father converted the John Hammer house into a place to house his machinery, and with the nice broad ceilings he finished rooms and a pantry in his own dwelling house. The fine orchard on the farm supplied us with fruit for a number of years.

After more than half a century I regret that the old log house was not preserved for a shrine like old Fort Ashby which it resembled.

Henry and Phebe Hammer and their ten year old son—William Henry—are buried in a grave yard that lies a few rods north of the site of the old log house. They each had a heavy, marble tombstone and their graves were in good condition until in 1923 when that part of the Hammer Plantation was purchased by B. H. Hiner, who had the fence and stones removed and the place plowed over. There were thirty-three graves at this place and the descendants were incensed that the dead should be robbed of their last earthly rights. It was said that nothing grew on the site and that he did not live to profit from the act.

After the death of my father the "John Hammer Farm" was sold to Otho D. Byrd who built a modern home in front of the site of the frame building so that the well of water would be at the back door instead of in the front yard. The question arose as to why all pioneer homes were arranged to have the water in the front yard—and was answered, jokingly, "So as to give the women more work to do!"

When O. D. Byrd sold the farm to Lester Skidmore in 1941 it went out of the Hammer families and their descendants after a period of 180 years.

The pioneer Caplinger home stood about a mile north of the Hammers' and on the west side of the river, near

what is now the home of Raymond Hammer. The huge chimney to this home stood alone for many years as a sentinel of the past. George W. Hammer, who died in 1940 in his 97th year, told me that after the time of the Caplingers their old home was used for a school house for a time. About 1850 it was bought by James W. Byrd and moved up on the hill near his mill as a dwelling for the man that he employed to work in the mill. After Clay Byrd and Fannie Harper were married they lived and reared their family of nine children in the house. He built a modern home in 1897, then took typhoid fever and died in September of that year.

I am in possession of a copy book written with great flourishes by George Hammer (3) perhaps while he was attending school in the old Caplinger house—the home of his grandparents. He would have been twenty in August, and was married that fall.

George the first signed his will in German, but his sons George (2) and Henry (2), not having the advantage of school, did not make their wills but arranged their business and gave their property during their lives.

They were sturdy pioneers who got their experiences from every-day living. While Henry died at the early age of thirty-five, his brother George lived to his full three-score and ten and had gathered enough to be able to give each of his children a home and a farm.

THE HAMMER SCHOOL

From history we learn that the first school districts in Pendleton county were established in 1846 and for a time short terms of school were held in rented buildings, then the one at the Pawpaw Spring, four miles north of Franklin was the first in this neighborhood to be built for school purposes and like the other early buildings it had scant and crude furniture. The schools were discontinued during the Civil War then West Virginia became a separate state and established the Free School System, and teachers were paid partly by taxation.

Then the Hammers gave land for school grounds near a cold spring, three miles north of Franklin and on this land a good log building was erected and named the Hammer School. After a time the building was ceiled and weather-

boarded and used for both school and church until in 1880 when the Hammer church was built, and then the old building was used for school purposes alone. In 1899 it was replaced by a new frame building, a new stove and a library were added and the long homemade desks and benches were replaced by modern ones. This was a community center for seventy years—until the Board of Education consolidated the schools and the pupils from this neighborhood were conveyed by bus to Franklin. Then the very valuable property was disposed of at a sacrifice price of \$30.00; the deed was signed Nov. 24, 1934 by the Board of Education, is recorded in the Clerks Office and the Hammer School passed out of existence.

ISAAC D. HAMMER'S BIRTHDAY PARTIES

On a Saturday evening, August 11, 1911, Mr. Hammer's friends and relatives gave him a complete surprise—which had previously been arranged. His brothers, Clay and Lee of Washington, and Malinda Eye from the State of Iowa had all come to have part in it.

Fond of music and loving to sing, he was entertained in the parlor while the guests arrived quietly, and when all were assembled in the large living room, he was called. When he stepped into the large circle of neighbors and relatives he was overcome with astonishment and in his excitement exclaimed, "What has happened! Is the WORLD COMING TO AN END!"

He had forgotten his birthday until they began to sing, "Happy Birthday" and announced to him that he was SIXTY-EIGHT. Then came a season of hand-shaking and greetings, for many friends found themselves together who had not met for years. Then there were some games, instrumental music and the singing of the old songs. His granddaughter, Miss Myrtle Dickenson, played the organ, Alonza D. Lough and Harry Harold the violins, and Lee Hammer the accordian. Lee having rare talents first sang songs that brought waves of laughter then old and sacred songs in which all joined—and olden memories brought tears to the eyes of some of them. Next came the grand birthday supper and the long table was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Sixteen of the most elderly folks ate at the first serving and it was a rare sight to see a table so gay, encircled by those whose hair was silvered with years. There were fifty-nine to partake of the delicious supper, and still there was plenty of food remaining.

Near neighbors present with their families were G. A. Hiner, Mrs. Adam Bolton, Elijah Simmons, Harry Harold, Ernest Byrd, Benn Hammer, Clarence Hammer, and those from a distance were Mrs. Malinda Eye of Iowa City, Clay and Lee Hammer and Lee's daughter Miss Sibyl and son Clyde of Washington. Those from adjoining neighborhoods were Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Lough of Fort Seybert, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. (Bud) Hammer, Mrs. George W. Hammer, Misses Linnie and Dump Hammer, Arbella Dickenson, Ella Rexrode, Whitney Eye and Virgil Homan—totaling fifty-nine besides the family—Mr. Hammer, the Guest of Honor, his daughter, Mrs. Texie Dickenson, and her daughter Myrtle and son Roy. Mr. Hammer received a nice lot of gifts and enjoyed the evening so much that he appeared ten years younger! (And he lived to enjoy twenty more birthdays!)

There was a special birthday celebration given for him August 12, 1921, with fifty-eight guests present. There were four large cakes baked by Dump, Linnie, Myrtle and Elsie, and ten gallons of lemonade served in the afternoon shade on the lawn at his home. Some of the guests were Mrs. Kate Trumbo and daughters Cleda and Beulah, Mrs. Kate Dyer and son Charles, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Boggs and daughter Elizabeth—and fifty other Hammer relatives.

His third celebration was August 12, 1926, when he was eighty-three, his granddaughter, Mrs. Myrtle Hammer, who lived with him in his home, gave him a birthday dinner, and as his guests present were Ten Hammers—George W., Benjamin S., Phebe Ann, Linnie, Vina, Olin, Myrtle, Theda, Mrs. Mellie Hammer of Washington C. H., Ohio, and Mrs. Hannah (Hammer) Mallow.

The five Ruddles present were Ona, Jessie, Wilda, Hansel and Nola. The Boggs's present were Elsie, Elizabeth, Grace and Mary Ann and the Byrds were Lura and Carl. Others were Robt. L. Budden, Mrs. Georgiana (Hammer)

Gessner of Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Wilmah (Hammer) Hastings and son Billie of Washington Court House, Ohio. Mr. Hammer cherished a lot of relics, and when the guests were assembled he opened the top drawer to an old fashioned bureau and searched out a small baby's cap, dainty and handmade, and explained that he wore it 83 years ago and he had always prized it because his mother made it. He also told the history of a very old looking glass with pictures in the upper part of the frame, and of his big, queer looking, rocking chair with such big, fancy rockers. It was over a hundred years old and had come down through the Hammer Families. He remembered when he was twelve of working for his grandfather, George Hammer II and that he had paid him a sixpence a day for his work, the value of which was twelve cents; and he remembered seeing his elderly grandfather sitting in this chair, and resting his hands on its broad arms.

Isaac D. Hammer had no enemies, for he was like the Godly man in the First Psalm. As a Civil War soldier, he served the full four years in Co. K., 62 Va. Regiment of Imboden's Brigade. He was wounded in his arm May 15, 1864, in the Battle of New Market and before that wound healed he went into the battle at Fisher's Hill and on Sept. 22, 1864, was shot in his hip. This wound was so serious that he was not expected to live. His mother rode horse back over the mountains, carrying two small children, to Fisher's Hill to wait on him and it is likely that he owed his recovery to her. He recovered but was lame through all the rest of his long life. He told many interesting things. One, I remember, was of how as he was lying prostrate from his wound, knowing that the enemies would come to search him, dug a hole in the ground and buried his watch which he valued very highly. They soon came and took every thing he had but did not find the watch. Later, a friend got it for him and he carried it as a memorial the rest of his life.

His brother Howard, about seventeen, who had volunteered only three weeks before, was killed at the Battle of Fisher's Hill.

Note: The big rocking chair was later given to Mrs. Mary (Harold) Yager, a Hammer descendant living in Washington, D. C., who is much interested in antiques.

“Who is the Happy Warrior? Who is he
That every man in arms should wish to be?
—It is the Generous Spirit, who, when brought
Among the tasks of real life, hath wrought
Upon the plan that pleased his boyish thought;
Whose high endeavors are an inward light
That makes the path before him always bright;
Who, with a natural instinct to discern
What knowledge can perform, is diligent to learn.”

Chapter IV

MORE FAMILY REUNIONS

DESCENDANTS OF ABRAHAM AND SUSANNAH (HAMMER) KILE

Many of their descendants meet each summer in a reunion at the Judy church, which is in Pendleton county, near the Grant County line.

This big log church built in 1837 served one hundred years, then was repaired with a new clapboard roof, window sash, etc., copied from the original.

Rev. Benjamin Stickley was the United Brethren minister in 1837 and induced his congregation to build the church as their services were then having to be held in a barn belonging to a Mr. Bond. The lot for the church was given by Isaac Graham. Jacob Alt made the clapboards and Jacob Judy made the nails. The men cut the logs on the ground and raised the building—one man on each corner, and the women of the vicinity brought plenty of food. Then they all wore homespung clothing and home-made leather boots and shoes, and at this reunion August 9, 1942, many changes were noted. In 1837 likely they came in an ox cart or riding horseback. In 1942 they came in cars or trucks and there wasn't even one buggy on the ground. My daughter Mary Ann took me in her Ford Car and we took a basket of lunch, spread and mingled with the crowd, met and learned to know a lot of nice people. I took with me for exhibition a picture of Susannah (Hammer) Kile, the ancestress of nearly every one in this large congregation. Rev. John Kile had charge of the program for this meeting.

There was a sermon in the forenoon delivered from the high pulpit in the church—the original pulpit and benches are still used and it is a privilege to sit there and listen to a sermon preached in the same faith that was explained there over a century ago.

In the afternoon a fellowship service was held in the grove and after a short program prizes were awarded, a few of which were as follows: James Hervy Kile, aged 86, received the prize for being the oldest Kile present and of having traveled the farthest to get there, which is four hundred miles from his home in Ohio. He was accompanied by his son, Dr. J. C. Kile and family of Jefferson, Ohio.

Jacob and Sallie Kile received the prize for having been married the longest time. They reported forty-three grandchildren and four great-grand children. Mr. and Mrs. John W. Kimble were the second oldest married couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Eston Kile received a prize for having the largest family of children, and Andrew Ayres, aged 93, for being the oldest visitor present. There were four generations present of George Wash Kile, son of Abraham and Susannah (Hammer) Kile.

Rev. John Kile proved himself to be a good Master of Ceremonies, and there was a lot of fun in delivering the presents, then the meeting was adjourned for a short social gathering.

THE BYRD FAMILIES BELIEVED IN FAMILY REUNIONS

The Byrds in Pendleton County are Hammer descendants through their ancestress, Mary Ann (Hammer) Byrd, and believing that the greatest unit on earth is the family tie, and wishing to preserve this union and affection that exists among the members of this family, they hold their reunions; and some of the records have been preserved.

Their first reunion was held August 30, 1930, at the Hammer Church, three miles north of Franklin, with fifty of the seventy-one of the direct, living descendants of James W. and Mary Ann Hammer Byrd present; also forty visitors, all in some way related but not direct descendants.

The program lasted from 10 a. m. to four p. m. and there were many happy reminiscences related among the older members, and some of the younger ones met for the first time and the family became more closely knitted together in the bond of relationship.

At noon a bountiful dinner was spread on long tables constructed for the occasion and from the good things to eat it could scarcely be realized that "The Great Drought

of 1930" had been at all felt in the South Branch Valley. In the afternoon pictures were made of the different groups, one of special interest being of the fifty-one Byrd descendants. An interesting feature was a very large kodak album filled with old pictures of the families which had been made by Arlie C. Byrd more than a generation before, and another was a cane made by James W. Byrd, bearing his name and date, 1841, very artistically carved in the handle which was made from the deer that he had killed.

Before separating the audience gathered in the Hammer church for religious services. Dr. G. C. Trumbo, one of the grandsons, lead the music and Rev. Leslie H. Patterson, who was a special guest, gave a very impressive talk from Joshua 24:15: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"; and in speaking of the early training in the home and church he emphasized the fact that Mrs. Mary Ann Byrd, who had been left a widow early in life with a family of four young children to rear, was a Christian; and he told of how she with her two brothers, George and Jacob Hammer, and their families, had built the Hammer Church just half a century before and that in accordance with God's Word their souls are made happy by worshiping with their descendants.

Those present were as follows: Mrs. Mary Catherine Trumbo, who was very anxious to have this reunion, as she was the last living child of James W. and Mary Ann Hammer Byrd. Of the sixteen grandchildren, fourteen were present: Lon D. and Miss Cleda Trumbo of Brandywine, Dr. G. C. Trumbo of Norfolk, Va., Mrs. Shirley Kiser of Greeley, Colorado, Mrs. Beulah Simpson, of Keyser, Arlie C. Byrd, Mrs. Luna Simmons and Mrs. Blanche Hammer of Ruddle, Don Byrd, L. R. Byrd, Mrs. Elsie Byrd Boggs and Mrs. Lilian O. Daugherty of Franklin, and Ernest R. Byrd of Bridgewater, and Cletus O. Byrd of Keyser.

Of the thirty-nine great-grandchildren, 27 were present: Masel, Carl, Woodrow, Dale, Layman, Macie, Maurice, Wayne, and Leslie-May Byrd; John B., Grace H., and Mary Ann Boggs; Dr. Virgil R. Homan; Lenn, Beulah and Gilda Simmons; George O., Marvin, Howard, Raymond, Fannie Kate and Verna B. Hammer; Dorothy, Sunshine

B. and Susan P. Trumbo; Mary Louise Kiser and Mary Helen Simpson.

Of the fifteen living great-great-grandchildren, eight were present: Ima L., George Ona, and Neva C. Hammer; Alda Simmons; Maurice, Richard, Reid and V. R. Homan, Jr. Those present who married into the family were, Mrs. Don, Mrs. Ernest, Mrs. Cletus O., and Mrs. L. R. Byrd; Mrs. Grover C. Trumbo; Mrs. Lenn Simmons, Mrs. V. R. Homan, Mrs. George O. Hammer, Baxter Daugherty, Gordon Boggs, Lloyd Hammer, Walter G. Simpson; also Harry, the nephew and adopted son of Baxter Daugherty.

The oldest visitor was George W. Hammer, aged 87, better known as "Uncle Fattie," who helped his father in building the Hammer church and through all the years has been one of its faithful members.

Other visitors present were Mrs. Edith (Hammer) Phares, Ruth (Hammer) Ruddle and her four sons, Ira, Alvin, Ralph and Virgil; Miss Ruth Boggs, Mr. and Mrs. Pent Ruddle, Floyd Ruddle, Mrs. Maggie Lambert, Miss Lizzie Harold, Carl Judy, W. W. Judy, Rev. and Mrs. L. H. Patterson and daughter Roseneath.

THE BYRD'S SECOND FAMILY REUNION

Five years elapsed until the second reunion and many things happened during that time—the closing of all our banks, the worst depression that our country ever knew, when many of us lost our homes, farms and about every thing that we had, but we resolved to live above such misfortunes and to start all over.

We again met at the Hammer church, August 17, 1935. The weather was at its best, there was a very large attendance.

Some new ones were received into the Clan and some of the older ones were missed, especially Aunt Kate Trumbo who passed away February 20, 1934, at the age of eighty years.

George Hammer, aged 92, was the oldest visitor present and enjoyed the day as much as anyone. He rode to the reunion on his old horse, which had been his faithful servant for twenty-three years.

After a bountiful dinner served under the shade of the trees, pictures were made of the groups—one of the direct descendants, others of the whole group, and one of Mr. Hammer on his horse.

Then all assembled in Hammer church for religious services. Rev. L. H. Patterson, who was again the invited guest and speaker, gave a very helpful talk from Genesis which is called the Book of Family Worship. He spoke from the first eight verses of the first chapter. Dr. G. C. Trumbo of Norfolk, Va., and Mrs. Walter Simpson of Brandywine lead the song service and Miss Alma Kiser of Greeley, Colo., played the organ. A sketch of the pioneer Byrd Family in Pendleton County was given by Mrs. Gordon Boggs; also a Memorial was read of those who had departed this life since the last meeting.

At the close of the meeting an organization of the Byrd Family was effected in which Dr. Trumbo was chosen President, Masel R. Byrd, Vice-President; Miss Cleda Trumbo, Secretary-Treasurer, and Mrs. Gordon Boggs, Family Historian; and the meeting was adjourned to meet in August, 1936.

THE BYRD FAMILIES HOLD A THIRD REUNION

This reunion was held August 15, 1936, at the Hammer church. The weather was fine and the attendance numbered eighty. The forenoon was spent in visiting and renewing old acquaintances, then the usual picnic dinner was enjoyed and at two o'clock all assembled in the church for religious services which were led by Dr. Trumbo. He previously had prepared a printed program headed with a picture of James W. Byrd taken about 1846 when he first came to Pendleton county, also some of the songs that the Byrds like to sing. The roll call showed that there had been no deaths in the clan during the year and that four new members were received: Mrs. Carl Byrd, Mrs. Howard Hammer and Basil Keller by marriage and Delton Ray Hammer by birth. A talk was given by the historian telling of different branches of the Byrd families after they came to America and the importance was stressed of this family, as well as other families, preparing a written history for those of the future. And this generation was challenged to live up to

the high standards set by their ancestors.

By unanimous vote the officers were reelected with the addition of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Byrd as choir leaders.

The meeting closed with prayer and was adjourned to meet next August. Those present today were Mr. and Mrs. Don Byrd, Mr. and Mrs. Masel Byrd, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Byrd, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest R. Byrd, Mr. and Mrs. Otho D. Byrd, and sons, Sheldon and Elwood; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Boggs and daughters, Grace and Mary Ann; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Boggs and son Curtis; Ona E. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Baxter Daugherty, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hammer and daughters, Fannie Kate and Verna; Mr. and Mrs. George O. Hammer and children, Ima L., George Ona, Neva C., Dale R., and Gene S., Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hammer and children, Serena and Harry Byrd; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hammer and son Delton; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hammer, Dr. and Mrs. G. C. Trumbo and children Sunny Byrd, Susan and Richard; Mr. and Mrs. Lon Trumbo and daughter; Mrs. Dorothy Boggs; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Simpson and daughter Mary Helen; Miss Cleda Trumbo and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Miller.

Visitors present were George W. Hammer, Mrs. Ruth Ruddle and four sons, Ira, Alvin, Ralph and Virgil; Mrs. Allie Hammer and daughter, Mrs. Verna Smith, and grand daughter Lois Smith; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Ruddle; Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hinkle of Detroit, Mich.; Mr. and Mrs. Will Wagoner of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Mary Lee Talbot of Chicago, Ill.; Harry Daugherty, Mildred Murphy, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Eva Stites, Mr. Ramsey of Martinsburg; Mr. and Mrs. Charley Moyers of Dayton, Va.; and W. W. Judy the photographer—who collected for the pictures but never delivered any of them!

THE FOURTH BYRD REUNION

Their fourth reunion was held August 14, 1937, at Thorn Spring Park, three miles south of Franklin.

James W. Byrd came ninety years before this to build McCoy's Mill and January 4, 1849, he married Mary Ann, the daughter of George and Catherine Caplinger Hammer; and the roll call at this meeting showed that there were eighty descendants living of this worthy couple.

The old mill is near where the reunion was held. It is still in use and is frequently visited by the millwright's descendants. Its massive timbers are solid and were hewed by hand and made smooth with the use of the ax and adz, the latter a tool that is not in use any more. Saw mills did not exist and nails were handmade and very scarce, so the huge timbers were put together with strong wooden pins. The walls in the basement were made of stone and a plaster, the formula of which has been forgotten. It is as solid as granite and can not be duplicated by workmen of today.

George W. Hammer, in his 94th year, was an honored guest at the reunion, and as the only person living any more who knew James W. Byrd personally, was called on to give a sketch of his life. He told of his early death in the Civil War and told of what a useful man he was and said that there was a great place in life for him if he could have lived.

Dr. Trumbo had the program in charge and Dr. D. L. Beard, pastor of the Presbyterian church, gave a very valuable talk from Psalms 133:1 "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity." A letter of greeting was read from Mrs. Correllah Byrd Price of Denver, Colo., a daughter of John Mounce Byrd, deceased, who was the only brother of James Wm. Byrd. Dr. Trumbo led in a number of songs and the music in the open, under the shade of the trees was very effective.

Officers elected were Don Byrd, President; Dr. Trumbo, Vice-President; Dr. V. R. Homan, Secretary-Treasurer and Mrs. Boggs, Historian.

After the usual picnic dinner several hours of visiting were enjoyed and pictures were made. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest R. Byrd of Bridgewater, Va.; Don Byrd, Mrs. Carl Byrd, Mrs. Elsie Byrd Boggs and daughters, Elizabeth and Mary Ann; Mr. and Mrs. John Byrd Boggs and son Curtis; Mrs. Estie Davis and daughters, Helen and Dorothy of Harrisonburg, Va.; Mrs. Shirley Kiser and daughters Mary Louise, Alma and Marie of Greeley, Colo.; Dr. and Mrs. G. C. Trumbo and son Richard and daughter Susan, of Norfolk, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Simpson and daughter Mary Helen; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd

Hammer and daughters, Fannie Kate and Verna; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hammer and son Delton; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hammer, George W. Hammer, Dr. and Mrs. D. Lee Beard and son D. Lee.

VISITORS FROM TEXAS

In the summer of 1937 Ethel (Hammer) White—daughter of Ira and Kate Hammer—together with her husband O. C. White, son VanDale and her sister Miss Eula Mae Hammer, of Olton, Texas, made an automobile trip to Pendleton county to visit their grandfather, George W. Hammer.

They left Texas the latter part of June and returned August 2nd, having traveled 8455 miles without a mishap or trouble of any kind.

Five days after their return Eula Mae was married to Mr. Ernest Crosswhite.

While they were here a family reunion was held in their honor at the home of George W. Hammer on July 11, and seventy-four of the relatives were in attendance.

Ira and Kate left here with their two children Feb. 9, 1908, to live the remainder of their lives in Texas, and two children, Beulah and Eula Mae, were born to them after they left Pendleton County.

George W. Hammer, who died in 1940 in his 97th year, lived the longest of any one in Pendleton county—so far as we have record—except his great-grandmother, Margaret (Simmons) Harper, who died November 9, 1847, at the age of 96 years, 6 months and 7 days. He died Sept. 9, 1940, which was 2 months and 23 days before he reached her age. These two ages covered a long span of life.

I have the following record of this ancestress taken from the hand written memoirs of Dr. E. A. Harper of San Diego, California, written March 6, 1884. He was her grandson and wrote the things told him by his parents.

“The name of Jacob Harper’s wife was Margaret Simmons. When about ten years of age she was captured by the Indians and held so long that it was supposed she was dead, but she made her escape and having some knowledge of the country from which she had been taken, traveling by night and keeping close watch eluded her pursuers until

she got to within five miles of her home where a gorge of high cliffs of rocks projects near to the river's edge, from high mountains on either side.

"At this place spies were kept by the white people. She ventured through this gorge or pass in daylight. The spy from his eminence saw her pass on the trail—there were no roads—and after well scrutinizing the trail behind her for more Indians, who always followed each other at a short distance apart, and seeing none, he thought that he would capture the "Squaw" and get out of the trail and from her he could maybe find out the plans and number of Indians in the rear. So, with gun in hand, in quick pursuit he soon came upon her unmolested as she was in a hurried trot, and putting one hand on her shouder gave a quick jerk backward and she being weak and exhausted it prostrated her flat on her back on the ground which brought them face to face, and to his surprise he saw that she was a white woman, almost in a nude state and very much sunburned.

"Her fright was soon relieved seeing that her captor was a white man. He took her to his retreat of ambush where he had some provisions and when she was refreshed was conveyed under the cover of the night to her father's log cabin; and well can we imagine the rejoicing in the home that night. About 1773 she married Jacob Harper, a son of Philip, and they had a family of thirteen children. Philip was the pioneer settler on the North Fork and the land that he first owned is still in possession of his descendants (Glenn Hedrick and sons)."

September 3, 1933, I visited the grave of Margaret Simmons Harper, my third-great-grandmother, which lies a few rods from what is now Solomon's Chapel a church near Judy Gap—and was named in honor of Solomon Hinkle who once owned the land and lived near there—on what was formerly known as Chestnut Ridge. Her head stone is a mountain boulder with the date of her death and her name chiseled in it, and it is badly worn by the elements of a century of time.

Chapter V

FACTS AND FANCIES

TRUE SNAKE STORIES. ONE ON GEORGE W. HAMMER

There was a big barn on the farm where the Hammers lived and one time a full-grown, racer snake took up its abode in the barn. Mrs. Hammer and the children had often been scared by coming unexpectedly upon it and begged that it be killed, but Mr. Hammer wished to keep it, as he explained that it destroyed mice and rats about the barn.

One morning he arose very early to make a trip and when he got to the barn to hitch up his team he saw what he thought was his new wagon whip lying on the ground and exclaiming with some irritation, "Now, who has had my whip and left it here?" hurriedly picked it up! When Mr. Snake coiled about his arm their friendship was soon dissolved and this was the last scare that it gave to anyone.

This story was told me by his daughter Ora who laughed heartily over her father's discomfiture.

SNAKE STORY NO. 2

George Hammer (3) was a great farmer as well as a great hunter and could have written volumes on "Wild Life," as such is called today.

When he worked on his farm he often took a bucket full of water with him and set it under the shade of the fence to keep cool that he might drink freely as his thirst demanded. One time when going to get a drink he saw a large snake moving toward the bucket and waited to see what it would do! He said that it lifted its head high by the bucket as if taking a look around, then slowly crawled into the bucket and after cooling its body for awhile in the water, crawled out and went on its way.

Later, when asked why he always carried his drinking water to the field in a jug he would relate this experience.

STRANGE BATTLE

He also told of a very strange battle that he once wit-

nessed between two large snakes—one a rattler and the other a long, black racer. He watched breathlessly thinking that the rattler would be the victor, but in a moment the racer very dexterously encircled the enemy—coiling about its body at either end—then straightening itself, tore it in two.

STILL ANOTHER BATTLE

Another experience he told of—and he had many—was of a battle between a rattle snake and a large toad. He wondered what the “fight” might be about, so watched them with interest. It seemed that the toad was very angry and made the attacks. When bitten by the snake it went to a large bunch of plantain leaves and ate ravishingly then made another attack and was bitten again. After several attacks and several doses of the weed he removed the plantain and when the toad returned and could not find the cure it soon swelled up and died, and he then thought it a proper time to dispatch the snake. He thought perhaps the snake had the toad charmed, which was the cause of its anger.

A MORE SERIOUS EXPERIENCE

A more serious experience related by him was when he came so near shooting his eldest son, William Harrison Hammer, when they were watching a deer-stand. The son, then a young lad, had never killed a deer and the father, now wishing for him to have this thrill, arranged him in front of himself and behind a log so that he could get the first shot, then if his son missed he himself would bring down the deer. The deer ran by as they had expected, the son fired and missed, then in his excitement rose up just as father back of him pulled his trigger, but sensing the danger in time, threw up the front of his gun and the bullet whizzed over, just grazing the boy's scalp!

Were you ever scared!

I remember a great scare that my mother and I had when I was a small girl. It was on a moonlight night and my father was away from home, and we lived in the country a mile from neighbors.

About two o'clock in the morning my mother heard footsteps outside and upon looking out of the window saw

a man just outside of the yard, who seemed to be looking the house over, as she suspected with a robber's intent, for my father was then Sheriff and as there was no bank in the county, sometimes kept sums of money in the house. I got awake and kept watch with her and our blood ran cold as he stepped first one way, then the other, but seemingly as we thought, with his intentions fixed upon the home! The longer that he seemed interested the greater we were scared, for we had no gun nor any means of protection.

At length the terrible tension was broken by the baying of some hounds that came down the hollow, bounding to him and jumping up to lick his hands as he patted them. Then they all started down the road together and we never knew who he was, other than that he was a belated hunter waiting for his dogs.

AN EARLY OBSTETRICIAN

My mother, Phebe M. Byrd, although never having been to medical school, was proficient in the natural qualifications of a physician and surgeon. My father often said that she would have made a most valuable surgeon, as she had the steady nerve necessary to perform successful operations. He explained that she inherited this inborn talent from her great-grandfather, James Meadows, who was a valuable doctor in his day.

She sometimes went to the home of a neighbor when no doctor was available and took care of a mother and newborn infant. That was before the day of license to practice. She never lost a case and never received any pay for her attentions. If stock on our farm got sick my father always sent for her to come to see what was the matter and to decide what was to be done. We had fine sheep on the farm and once upon a quiet Sunday morning she heard the barking of dogs and went to see about them. It was in the spring of the year and she knew that the ewes were heavy with lamb and not able to run to safety. When she arrived at the scene of the commotion she found the dogs killing one of the best ewes. She scared them away and seeing that the ewe was dying rushed to the house for a sharp knife, then as the breathing ceased, slashed open the side and drew forth a nice lamb, and upon further examination

located another, then gave her full attention to bringing them to life. In a short time she had them on their feet, begging for nourishment. They grew to be unusually fine sheep, due to her careful attention in bringing them up. They were named "Tim" and "Tom" and as these were the first Caesarian births then known in Pendleton county, Tim and Tom became noted living examples of what could be done by surgery!

ANOTHER VERY UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE

It is a long way from the old-fashioned soap kettle to the giant soap factories of today and there are doubtless many today who do not remember of having seen the old-time process.

In my home we made soap of the meat rinds and lye leached from the wood ashes. Each spring the ash hopper was built and lined with straw, then the ashes were packed in very firmly and water poured on until it ran through into the trough underneath which carried it forward into a large tub or kettle. When a sufficient amount was leached it was boiled with the grease until it became soap and sometimes it did not take very long. My mother always made enough to fill a large barrel; then made some more which she transformed into hard cakes of soap by adding a cup of salt to each kettle of soap which caused it to separate, and when cold the hard soap was on top and the lye in the bottom. The hard soap was cut into cakes and stored for use.

Both the soft and hard soaps were used for doing the family washings and for all cleaning and scouring purposes, so quite a lot of it was needed for a year's supply. We had a very large iron kettle which was used for the soap making and when a kettleful was finished my father and some of the workhands would lift it from the crane from which it was hung in the back yard and my mother would then dip it out and store it in vessels.

On one particular occasion a fine kettleful of soap had been finished a little early in the evening before the men came in, and mother was wishing that someone would come along to lift it off for her.

Now, it happened that my father had previously pro-

mised a man who was driving cattle to his grazing farm in the mountains that he could turn them in for the night, so just at the right time, as if by appointment, the big steers began walking all around the yard investigating their new quarters, and mother was filled with consternation when one marched up to the kettle of soap and surveyed it with interest, then stuck his head through under the bail of the kettle and very slowly and gently raised it until the kettle was lifted up—then he backed slowly for several feet and the kettle being very heavy he set it down, but apparently with as great care as any of the farm hands could have done it.

My mother held her breath in awe, for she was sure that now the soap would be spilled and the steer terribly burned—but to her surprise he lowered his head and as the bail remained upright he drew gently back until he was away from the heat, then walked off as if no act of neighborly kindness had been done!

EARLY MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD

A recent talk with a friend of mine upon how early the mind of a child registers so that memory, as we call it, is carried into after life, caused me to recall some of the early things that my own mind registered and that I now write as they present themselves clearly before me.

It has been said that an impression once made upon the mind is never lost. This is true if the impression has been truly made.

The early memories retained are of the unusual things that happened around us. The mind then being in a plastic state, they are registered and held very clearly. For this reason we should be careful of the kind of impressions that our youths must carry with them through life. When I was a baby my father had a nice walnut cradle made for me. My first recollection about this cradle is that one morning as I was lying in it a man brought in a small yellow puppy into the room. It was put in the cradle with me and licked my face and we had a very exciting time getting acquainted. I remember how the tall stranger looked and I remember the hot fire in the big fireplace and that he warmed his hands.

The pup was named "Jack" and grew up into an English fox hound, highly intelligent and with a close coat of hair over his body. He was my faithful companion and body-guard for a long time and after I started to school my first composition that I tried to write was about "Jack—My Dog." Also my first attempt at writing a poem was about Jack.

MY SECOND MEMORY

My parents bought a sewing machine when I was a little more than two. An agent came to our home and took the order and it was much talked about until the day it arrived for us to go to Ruddle where it had been shipped, to haul it home. This is a memory of my first trip from home. We left from Grandmother Byrd's.

Her big work horses named George and Luce were hitched to the road wagon, which seemed so very big and high, as they lifted me to the spring seat where I was to ride with my mother and my Aunt Kate Trumbo. My mother had Aunt Kate's baby which was very small and so tied up that he could not see, and I was afraid that he would not be able to get his breath. When I was handed up Aunt Kate took me and said to mother: "We'll just trade babies." This was my first worry—I did not want to be traded. I remember the Wilson Hill where the sand was so deep that the big wheels made a funny, grinding noise. I remember walking into the store and seeing the sewing machine—the first I had known what a sewing machine looked like. It was crated with slats and I wondered why it had not been boxed up tight.

MY THIRD MEMORY

I was nearing my third year when President James A. Garfield was shot. I learned to talk very early and my father took delight in teaching me, so when Grandmother or Aunt came I could readily tell them who was President of the United States or who was our Governor of West Virginia.

We always arose very early in the morning and while mother was preparing breakfast father would get me dressed. He would set me on his knee while he laced and

tied my little, home-made shoes and I would hold to his arm and think how big and strong he was. He often hummed a tune and I learned to love him in the sense of worship. We had a big open fireplace and plenty of wood. He would place first a big round piece, which he called the backlog, then a large heavy stick across the front of the tall brass irons, which he called the fore stick; then dry split wood in the middle made a delightful fire and plenty of light when he was not reading. This was always my happiest time in the day—when he told me things, as I expressed it.

One morning he very seriously said, "Daughter, Our President, James A. Garfield is dead. He was killed by a wicked person. We shall have a new President named Chester A. Arthur. Can you remember his name?"

Almost a year later, when my baby brother arrived, they talked of naming him Arthur, but I insisted that he be called Don because my mother had told me about little Don Boggs having lost his parents.

It was August 15, 1882, when Don came to be our baby. My father took me to stay with my grandmother that week and as we walked along the path around Cherry Knob we encountered "Harold's bull," a huge spotted animal that I had been taught to fear very greatly. When he gazed at us I held tightly to my father's hand and felt safe in the face of danger!

After a very long week father came for me and we came home through the meadow where the hands were making hay. They were resting under the shade of an apple tree and drinking water from a dipper which they dipped into a new tin bucket. They laughed and cheered at father and said things that I did not understand.

When I was four my mother took me to see Aunt Adelaide Davis and her new baby. I wondered why she had to be in bed and why her baby was so red and not pretty like our baby. Mother went each day and I became assistant nurse and helped the little baby dispose of his over supply of nourishment. It seemed that I was very efficient and I liked my job because I thought so much of my Aunt. She later gave me pink calico for a dress for my important assistance. My mother made it on the new sewing machine

and trimmed it in white braid and I can remember well my feeling of pride as I marched down the road wearing that dress! We then walked to church and Sunday School as we had no way to ride except in grandmother's road wagon and it was too much trouble to get.

My mother was a member of the Dunkard church, so we always wore bonnets until one day father came from town bringing me a little red hat which until that time was the greatest thing that I had happen to me. It was too small and he had to take it back to get a larger one and I was greatly distressed because I reasoned that if he brought a larger one the band would not meet! That was the first that I exercised my reasoning faculty!

My first memory in a church service was at the Hammer church, which seemed so very large to me. I was with my parents and asked them to let me go to sit with my Grandmother Byrd of whom I was especially fond, and she seemed glad to have me near her. Then came the singing, and she having a good voice joined in heartily. I could not understand her rapture at such a song—"And when this poor lisping stammering tongue lies silent in the grave!" I was indeed puzzled and that was the only thing that left any impression on me that day.

My great-grandmother, Mary Harper Hammer, gave me goods for a dress and my mother made it also on that wonderful sewing machine! She was an expert in my mind at making dresses. This dress had a long waist with fluffy ruffles on the skirt and the first time that I wore it they took me to spend the day with Great Grandmother. All that I remember about the trip is that it was a cold day and that they had Don—who was perhaps four months old—very much bundled up and that father carried him in his arms—and I walked along by my mother and got so tired!

We got home in the evening and they went to milk and feed, and locked the door so that I could not get out in the cold, and the baby was left in the cradle. We had a new stove about which I was very curious, so I ventured to open the door to look inside. The flames flew out and as I turned to run away caught the tail of my dress and I was dancing by the cradle when my mother came in. In her ex-

citement she grabbed me and beat out the fire, badly burning her hand. I thought that she was whipping me for opening the stove door. I can remember how she suffered with her burns and of how sorry I was that my new dress was forever ruined. The fire went up my back and singed all the hair off the back of my head, but I was not disturbed so much about that as I was about the loss of my new dress! My mother said, "You are four years old and should know better than to dig in the fire," and I felt that being four was being old.

In the meadow near our home there was a very large tree that bore sweet apples—and before I was five I thought that they were good, even before they were ripe. I often went there to get apples and to swing in the low branches. One day when I was getting some of these I heard a terrible buzzing sound, which I thought was bees in the tree, and kept looking up until I felt the grass at my feet moving and then looking down at my side I saw a large rattle snake coiled ready to strike. I had been taught to fear snakes so I backed away from this serious danger and ran home. When I grew older I came to realize that my unseen, Guardian Angel protected me many times, when in close calls with death, for I had several narrow escapes from poisonous snakes and once from a cross, enraged cow.

Another strange experience I had was when our favorite cow was struck by lightning. Father always kept several good cows and their pasture was on the high hill near our house, so my mother let me when quite small go for them of evenings. Once I remember a heavy thunder storm had passed and as it was time to milk I went for the cows and when I got to the peak of the hill I found old Red lying prostrate on the ground, and when I tried to arouse her the other cows gathered around me in great excitement. I got scared and ran home and when I tried to tell my mother I found it very difficult to talk. She went to see what had happened and found that the cow had been killed by lightning. There were streaks on her body showing the path of the electrical current. Later I asked my parents many questions about Red's future estate and learned that there was a difference between the Human and Animal estates.

When I was about six and my brother was two I had another unusual experience when a large black-snake chased him around the house. He had been playing in the back yard and I was at the front of the house when I saw them coming—with the snake in a roll like a hoop following close to him. I ran to him and picked him up and carried him into the house before I could find my voice to call my mother. She ran for a sharp hoe which was handy and when the snake raised up to attack her she struck it with a true lick, cutting its head off several inches from its body.

I remember seeing her straightening out the body and that it was longer than the new, long handle which my father had a short time before put in the hoe.

EARLY HAND WORK

The sight of an apple cut into quarters often brings to mind when I was about five and father let me go with him and the hired hand up to the Jonathan Hollow to cut some wood. He always kept his supply a year ahead so as to have well seasoned wood to burn. While they were resting under an apple tree Frank cut and cored some apples and placed them evenly on a piece of bark for me to leave for the squirrels. This was early hand work for child entertainment. We children thought a lot of Frank and almost as soon as Don could walk he ran off up the hollow to where he knew Frank was working. He clapped his hands in glee and said, "Hi, Frank, I have come to you!" Frank immediately dropped his work and brought him home where my mother was searching frantically for him.

Frank was a handy man and as a shoemaker by trade made our winter shoes each fall. Father always had the tanner to prepare a nice calf's hide which they spoke of as "kip." He wore boots that came almost to his knees and I heard him say that anyone ought to be proud of a nice pair of kip boots. He was proud of his and as soon as I was able for the job he gave me a nickel each Saturday to polish his boots for him.

When my brother Ernest was about three months old we three children took whooping cough and he and I were very bad with it, but Don did not mind it. Mother made us chestnut-leaf tea and greased us with lard and turpentine.

When my paroxysm came on I would kneel by the stair step while it lasted and I remember how my nose would bleed.

Susan Smith, who lived near us, brought the cough from Brushy Fork and gave it to Sallie Blewitt's children, Harry, Pent, Rachel and Grace; and Don and I played at their house when they were taking it, then we gave it to Ernest and all of Uncle Clay Byrd's nine children. Barbara Smith's baby died of it and was buried on Mount Hiser, near where the Grade school building now stands. Father brought the little coffin in which to bury it, carrying it from town on his horse. The neighbor women dressed the baby and its funeral service was held in our yard. It's mother was lamenting greatly, and when I asked my mother what made her cry she said that Mrs. Smith's baby was as dear to her as our baby was to us.

SPOOK TALES

When I got a little older I was very much interested in an old lady by the name of Rachel Lambert who visited us occasionally and could tell the most thrilling witch and spook tales! I sat on my small chair by her and accepted every thing that she told as the gospel truth, and she was a gifted story-teller. I was always attracted to people who were old, as I highly respected age and wisdom, and it was the old people who knew so much. I especially remember two very old ladies that sometimes staid with us when my father was away. They were Miss Sarah Pennington and Mrs. Nellie Simmons. They wore red kerchiefs tied on their heads and enjoyed smoking their pipes, which I looked upon as quite an accomplishment.

Before I ever experienced the old saying, "Live and Learn," I believed every thing that was told me. My cousins Cletus and Otho Byrd showed me a wasp's nest and told me that it should be knocked down and that the wasps would not bite me; so, armed with a heavy tick, I followed their directions. After they laughed at my swollen eyes I was always more careful about whose advice I followed.



A TRIBUTE TO THREE BRAVE SOLDIERS

George W., Isaac D., and Benjamin S. Hammer
(Picture taken August 12, 1926)

"So frail and old; their hair so white
But in their eyes there was a light
The years could never dim; a fire
Fanned by excitement—the desire
To march once more the oft marched way,
And to the "Cause" their tribute pay.

"Their eyes now are closed and they're at rest
The victory won, they are home at last
With waiting loved ones, their hands to clasp.
Smiles o'erspread their peaceful faces
That touched them with Heavenly graces
As they heard Heaven's Roll Call, loud and clear
They heard—and answered, "Yes, Lord, here!"

Chapter VI

CIVIL WAR LETTERS

CIVIL WAR REMINISCENCE AS TOLD BY

GEORGE W. HAMMER

It was on a visit July 10, 1937, to my Great-Uncle's home that he gave me the following information—he said that he always liked to talk to me because I listened well and that most of the young people then took no interest in what he could tell them. He advised me to get a book and write, and after that he would often inquire how the book was coming on. He told about the two great occasions each year in 1859 and 1860 when the officers of the county met at the County Seat and spent three days drilling; then there was a Regimental Muster which was attended by many of the citizens. This was repeated in the fall of the year—September or October. They were preparing for the war which came in 1861, but was little stressed that year in Pendleton county; and business went on about as usual.

The County Court had met early in the year and adopted the resolution, "Whereas, Virginia having dissolved all connections with the United States of America, its officers are exempt from their obligations to support its constitution." The Justices then took oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States of America and an order was passed, that when a volunteer company of sixty men could be raised each man was to be furnished \$30.00 with which to buy uniforms; and bonds were sold to raise the money. The families of the volunteers were promised, when necessary, to be given funds for living expenses. The body of 140 troops thus equipped was named The Franklin Guards. When they were first marched out of Franklin, May 10, 1861, they were formed into companies in front of the old Court House and the old General McCoy home, by Captain John B. Moomau.

William H. and Leonard H. Hammer were members of

this new organization but George W. was too young to join, although he was a spectator.

They were wearing their new uniforms and nice hats with plumes in them but these were discarded when they got into service. They were later ordered to Philippi to fight and there some of them were captured. Some of them made their escape and went into the 25th and 31st companies, and some went into the infantry.

In resistance to the Confederate enlistment there was a state organization of companies known officially as Home Guards, or Federal Auxiliaries, whose duty it was to defend against invasion the counties to which each belonged. West Virginia had 32 of these companies of state troops called Home Guards. John Boggs, Jr., was the captain of the Home Guards in Pendleton county.

The war on the border became more terrible than in the counties lying at a distance, for here room was given for private grudges and with neighbor against neighbor there became destitution.

The first collision of Federal and Confederate troops within the county was March 1, 1862, in the gap above Riverton, where Lieutenant Weaver of Ohio skirmished with Confederate forces under Capt. Joseph Lantz with his band of infantry known as "The Dixie Boys" and a troop of Rockbridge Cavalry, in which Perry Bland and Thomas Powers were killed and some of the troops captured.

Lieutenant Weaver and his force retired to the Mouth of Seneca where they camped that night. The whole county was aroused and groups gathered to talk over the tragedy of the deaths of two citizens—and to wonder what would happen next!

On the next day, March 2, George W. Hammer, then not quite eighteen, was with a group of neighbors at his Uncle Ale Hammer's at Ruddle where they were discussing the fight at Riverton, when William Freeland, a member on parole of the Franklin Guards, appeared. D. G. McClung of Franklin had loaned him a horse and sent him down the river to try to learn some news of the moves of the Federal army, and whether they were coming to Franklin. Freeland asked Mr. Hammer to go with him to the North Fork to as-

certain what was going on. He went and rode a very fine horse belonging to his father.

Almost as soon as they got into Germany Valley they were captured and taken before Lieutenant Weaver, and when he inquired what they were doing there they replied that they were going courting. He said, "Come with me and I will court you tonight!"

They were court-martialed, condemned as spies and sentenced to be shot the next day. Then they were taken to a vacant house near by and put into separate rooms where each was closely guarded. They were told that they could lie on the floor if they wanted to sleep. Freeland's guard went to sleep and he managed to escape and got his horse and returned to Franklin. He was later killed in battle at Beverly. Mr. Hammer found no way of escape.

It happened that he had a first cousin by the name of Abe Hinkle, who had cast his lot with the Federal side, and was much hated by all of his Confederate relatives because of it. But this seemed Providential, for when he learned of the serious situation his Cousin had gotten into he interceded for him and was able to have his sentence changed to confinement in prison. So he was taken to Beverly and imprisoned in the Randolph county jail until March 28, when he was taken to a prison in Wheeling where he was very closely confined until in June, when he was transferred to Camp Chase near Columbus, Ohio. There he was confined until September 12 when he was moved to Johnson's Island in Lake Erie, where he was held as a prisoner of War until November 4th when an exchange of prisoners was started. He was honorably exchanged Nov. 24, arriving at Warm Springs in Virginia December 8 and volunteered in the Confederate service Dec. 15, 1862, in Company F, 62d Va. Regiment, Mounted Infantry, and gave his full service with a conviction of the righteousness of the Cause for which he fought to the end of the war. Although he was in thirty-five battles he was never wounded—but had many close calls and many thrilling experiences. He said that his most thrilling experience was at Cold Harbor, June 2, 1864, when ten thousand men were killed in ten minutes.

I reverence the memory of my Great-Aunt Hannah

(Hammer) Mallow who remained at her parental home and took such good care of her mother who lived to be more than 87 years old and who passed away Aug. 28, 1905, after which Aunt Hannah, with the help of her daughter Phebe Lee Mallow (later Mrs. Boyd Wimer), moved from the old home to their new home on the hill which was near. (These homes are four miles north of Franklin).

There were many relics in the old garret and they invited me to come for a rummage. Among them was a rough homemade box filled with old letters written by the four Hammer sons while they were soldiers in the Civil War. I reasoned that I would never have made this valuable find if the box had not been old and rough and not wanted by anyone. I once knew of a trunk being emptied of a Revolutionary sword, cap and uniform, so that a small girl might have it for her doll's clothes, and the relics were thrown out and perished as junk.

In copying these letters the lengthy salutations and closings, which were forms, have been omitted.

First are letters from George W. Hammer after he was released from his long imprisonment.

In Camp, Jan. 13, 1863

Dear Brother Ben, Stay at home as long as you can—stay until the spring work is done if possible. Tell pap to come to see us and please get me a pair of boots made soon—some larger than yours and tell mother that I am in need of a pair of socks and gloves. Lieut. Cunningham will be to see you before his return. Tell Sister Sarah to please send me something to eat by him. What did the Yankees do for you the last time they were in Pendleton? I haven't had any mail nor any word. Please write.

Regards from your brother, George W. Hammer.

Camp Washington, Augusta Co. Va., Feb. 26, 1863

Dear Parents, We left Warm Springs the 21st inst and came to Millboro Depot and remained there until the 24th then came on to Buffalo Gap where we staid all night and that evening at roll call our company was formed on the upper part of the porch and it broke down injuring fifteen of the boys among which were John Hartman, Joe Custard, Henry Lough, Tom Priest and Sam Anderson. We

left John Hartman at Buffalo Gap and he was sent to the hospital in Staunton. The others were not so serious and have been taken care of. We got to this place last evening—four miles east of Imboden's Camp. Part of our company is detailed to go up to his camp to build huts. I just saw Add Henkle. We are well and in fine spirits.

Please write soon. Your son, George W. Hammer.

Camp Churchville, Augusta Co., Va., June 3, 1863.

Dear Parents, Our Regiment came here yesterday from Buffalo Gap. The 25th and 31st regiments have been ordered back down to the Rappahannock and took the train at Staunton last evening. Brother Harrison, James Ruddle and Riley Kile stopped here a few minutes on their way to catch the train at Staunton. They were going cheerfully. James had been exchanged for Josiah Siple and seemed very glad for the exchange.

They now belong to Imboden's Brigade and he explained that it was orders from Gen. Lee and they may not have to stay down there very long. Mother, I am needing an over shirt and some other suitable stuff which please send me when you have a safe chance. I sent my coat and pants by Uncle Jake Hammer. Regards to all the family from George W. Hammer.

In Camp one mile west of Staunton, Va., July 20, 1863

Dear Homefolks, Our Regiment left the Potomac ten days ago. We brought with us about four thousand prisoners and got here July 18th. We were within five miles of the Battle of Gettysburg. Some of the 25th were killed and some wounded. Harrison was not hurt. I saw Leonard at Martinsburg. He had been on prison guard at Winchester and was on his way to get with his regiment. Some of the boys have gone home today to get horses for we are all to be mounted.

We have some "Blinkers Dutch." They told me about Meadows' death and said that they know where you live. I talked with some that guarded me while I was in Camp Chase! Samuel Sponaule of our company was wounded at Williamsport. Regards from your son, George W. Hammer.

Camp near Westview, Dec. 24, 1863

Dear Father, We have been after Gen. Averell ever since he passed up through Pendleton County. We left camp six miles below Harrisonburg Dec. 11th and got back last evening and the General ordered Lt. Moomau to pick twenty five men from the regiment—most of them from our company and I was one of them, to go over to Pendleton to see where the Yankees were. We got to the South Fork the 13th and found that they had marched up the South Branch. We went up the Fork and camped at John Kiser's. Sunday we went to Hiner's Mill on the Thorn and learned that they were at McDowell so we returned to report to Gen. Imboden on top of the Shenandoah mountain. We lay there one day and night and heard that the enemy was in the direction of Covington in Alleghany county. We then marched to Lexington, Va., and from there to Buckhannon in Bottertott county and from there to Covington and there learned that they had escaped by way of Lewisburg in Greenbriar county, then we returned to this place and we heard that Jackson captured two hundred of them. I marched one day and night while on the trip with my shoes full of water and it was so cold that I froze my feet. Will you please get leather and have me a pair of boots made? I wear one size larger than Ben. Shoes are not fit for winter, and we can not get leather here.

Regards to all the family, from your son, George W. Hammer.

Camp near Madison County Court House in Virginia,
December

Our Brigade was dismounted and the horses sent over here to get forage—there is one man to tend to every four horses. Ben is with the Brigade five miles above Luray, Va. John Ruddle will start to Pendleton in the morning on detail and he will give you all the news.

George W. Hammer.

Camp Hanover Station, May 21, 1864

Dear Folks at Home, I am well and enjoying what pleasure camp life can afford. I suppose that you have heard about the big fight at New Market on the 15th of this month. The enemy was right handsomely whipped with

their eight thousand men. They had 138 killed, 300 wounded and 500 prisoners. Our boys were 440 killed and wounded—of which 15 were killed.

George Hevener of our company was killed and Lewis Simmons and James Priest wounded. Ben went safe. He fought like an old veteran Soldier.

Our forces were commanded by Gen. Breckenridge. The 62nd's loss was 240 and they went into the fight with 500 men. Capt. Currence and Lieut. Mallow were killed and Captains Chipley, Hill, Holt, Smith, Bastabel and Woodson were wounded. I was with Capt. Boggs commanding a company of sharpshooters and did not become engaged in the fight. Our regiment has been attached to Gen. Whorton's Brigade in Breckenridge's Division. A short time after Gen. Seigle was driven back down the Valley we came to Staunton to take the cars and reached this place the 19th. Gen. Imboden with the rest of his Brigade is left in the Valley.

I suppose that you heard about the 25th regiment being captured—all to about thirty men. Capt. Boggs told me that he talked to some of the 25th and learned that there was one of the Hammer Boys got out but he did not know which one. Tell mother not to fret about them for they are safer in prison than in the army. They will start exchanging again as soon as the big fight is over. Please write and tell me how you got along planting corn. Give my regards to all my friends.

Address your letter as follows—George W. Hammer, Gen. Whorton's Brigade, Company F., 62nd Regiment, Breckenridge's Division.

Camp Linville Creek, Sept. 15, 1864

Dear Folks at Home, I heard that my Uncle Jacob Harper is very ill of fever at the hospital in Harrisonburg so I got a pass and went to see him yesterday and found him very weak and only able to speak in a whisper.

Capt. Boggs, John Hinkle, and Abel Ruddle are getting better of fever but George Hinkle is still poorly and Harrison was getting better the last that I heard from him. Leonard was well and anxious to come into Imboden's Command. I guess that you heard of Capt. McNeil's capture

at Moorefield when he and Capt. Imboden surprised and captured 148 Yankee prisoners and getting 40 horses, 9 wagons, arms and ammunition and three boxes of heavy pistols. You must not give McNeil all of the praise for Capt. Imboden had a hand in the game.

Tell Ben to make some cider for the boys when they get home. Write soon and direct to George W. Hammer, Co. F. 62 Reg't., Va. Infantry, Imboden's Brigade.

BENJAMIN S. HAMMER' LETTER

Ben was not old enough to get into the service until the Battle of New Market, when his brother said that he went in just like an old Veteran! Only one of his letters is found.

Camp Near Mill Fort in Page County, Va., Nov. 24, 1864

Dear Parents, George started across the Ridge (Blue Ridge) this morning with the horses. We have sent them to feed until we are relieved from picket. I do not know where we are to go then. We may be taken across the Ridge to winter. If so, I doubt whether I will get home this winter. If Sister Sarah will let me have her black mare I can get a detail to come after her. I have a grey horse here that I would leave with her until he can get some rest—then I would get another detail to come after him and that is the only hopes that I have of getting home.

Add Kile and Ed Ruddle have gotten back. They brought George and me some butter, Mapel sugar and a bottle of brandy. We each get a pound of flour and some beef, or pork sometimes, so can not complain. Billy Kile and Lieut. Cunningham brought George and me our overcoats. Mine has gotten too small but I do not need it so much at this time. I do very much need an overshirt and a pair of boots as my old ones are worn completely out. Please write me all the news. Regards from your son, Benjamin S. Hammer.

Note: Boys who were soldiers in the Civil War did not write home often because of the scarcity of paper. And there were very few, and often no mails, so they had to send letters when some one in their company got a detail for a short trip home, which was not often. Likewise it was

difficult for their home folks to get mail or supplies to them.

(We think that Ben's plan worked and he got two furloughs!)

LETTERS FROM LEONARD HARPER HAMMER

August 18, 1861

Dear Father, An attachment of our scouts was fired upon this morning. We have about 1500 scouts in the mountain. We have eight regiments yet at Greenbriar camp and eight pieces of cannon, and Capt. Anderson is at the head of it. The Yankees are fortifying three miles below Beverly and they have a force on Cheat Mountain with about sixteen cannon. We have about seven hundred sick men between here and McDowell. When we were in Monterey they died very fast. When I was there I went to see Aunt Kit and Aunt Hannah Trimble and they were very glad to see me and were anxious to hear from you folks down on the South Branch.

I am assigned to the cooking and must get to work. Regards to all the family from your son, Leonard H. Hammer. Please write and direct to Maj. Boggs' Battalion, Care of Capt. McCoy, North Western Virginia.

Camp near Orange Court House, Va., August 28th

Dear Father and Mother, We had Grand Review yesterday. Gen. Ed. Johnson was on the field and looked as though he was ready for any thing that might turn up in the fighting line. Gen. Ewell inspects our camp tomorrow so we are brushing up a little this evening. Capt. Johnson starts home in the morning on a fifteen day furlough and I am sending this letter also some postage stamps to you by him.

Bro. George and Jim Ruddie wrote me that they are encamped near Harrisonburg and that Abel Ruddie has fever. The Richmond paper stated that Imboden is in Staunton and that the Yankees made a raid through Pendleton Co. stealing horses and destroying all other stock. I send greetings to all my friends.

Your son, Leonard H. Hammer.

Camp Alleghany, March 24, 1862

Dear Father and Mother, I received Sarah's letter the

15th and yours the 18th and was downright glad to hear from you. We hear that the Yankees are in Mt. Jackson and we hope that Gen. Jackson will give Gen. Banks and his ten thousand Yankees what they deserve. We have snow here and had some fun snowballing the Rockbridge boys. I expect to reenlist and if I do I want to join the Cavalry if I can get a horse. I think the black horse would make a good Cavalry Horse and I would like to get him.

I am sorry that the Yankees got Brother George. I heard from Henry Bennett in prison and he said that he had enough to eat.

We have preaching every Sunday and prayer meeting in the week. Capt. Miller of Rockbridge preaches sometimes.

I am in mess with Lieut. Vanmeter, Bro. Harrison, C. Dyer, James Riggleman, Isaac Hinkle, Hopewell Hutton, Bill Bible and Strawderman.

Kindest regards to all the family from your son, Leonard H. Hammer.

Camp Alleghany, Pocohantas Co. March 25, 1862

Dear Father, Gen. Ed. Johnson of Georgia established this camp on the summit of the Alleghany mountain—nine miles from Crabbottom, to defend the Staunton-Parkersberg Pike a very important thoroughfare.

Gen. Johnson's scouts brought us the word that Jackson routed the Yankees from Winchester and that Col. Ashby killed ten Yankees and took twelve prisoners of their rear guard and that Pres. Lincoln called out the Maryland Militia and gave them arms, and they marched to Harper's Ferry and took possession of Maryland Heights, and burned the bridge, also that half of Baltimore has been bombarded and Gen. Milroy has drawn all the force in Western Va. to Huttonsville and the top of Cheat Mountain which makes about 2000 troops. We have about 2300. It is time for roll call so I close. Tell Phebe Ann and Mary (Ruddle) that I intend to make them some rings.

Best regards from your son, Leonard H. Hammer.

Head Division, Four miles below Winchester, Va.

June 18, 1863.

My Dear Parents, We have been suffering from head-

aches which were caused by the bursting of some old 30 lb. bombs too close to our heads. We just finished thrashing Gen. Milroy today. The enemy had nine or ten thousand men and had a splendid position, being strongly fortified on three hills. The one on the right they called Fort Lincoln and said that they would hold it against seventy thousand Rebels. Gen. Early charged them out of the two first last evening and the night closed the battle. Milroy, knowing that it would not be very healthy in his fort this morning slipped out about midnight and traveled some five miles on the Harpers Ferry road and ran into a portion of Gen. Ed. Johnson's Division a little before daylight. After a sharp engagement we captured some three thousand of his men and the rest of his artillery. The remainder of his army got out by flanking through a skirt of woods.

Our cavalry in close pursuit of them—picking them up by the hundreds! Gen. Rhode's Division is near Harper's Ferry and we expect him to tend to their cases. We have report that Gen. Imboden is twelve miles below here on the Martinsburg Road, so we have them in a tight place and they have neither wagons nor artillery—all of which are in our possession. Lord, how the ladies did cheer us as we came through Winchester! They are certainly true to our Cause. Our loss has been small. Gen. Ewell is really next to Jackson. His Corps consists of three divisions. Our regiment has been transferred from Earlie's to Old Alleghany Johnson's. We will move in the direction of the Ferry in the morning. Gen. Cross came up with us as far as Culpepper. It is now quite dark and I have no light—so good night. Your son, Leonard H. Hammer.

Winchester, Va., Frederick Co., June 26, 1863.

Dear Folks at Home, We expect to start in the morning for Pennsylvania. Gen. Ewell's corps is reported to be in Chambersburg. Gen. Imboden was at Hancock, Md., on the 24th. He had captured a great many horses and was mounting the 62nd Regiment. Our men captured a large amount of commissary, a great many horses, three hundred wagons, five thousand prisoners, twenty four pieces of artillery and a lot of small arms. Our loss was small. Pres. Lincoln has called for sixty thousand troops from Pennsyl-

vania. Best wishes to each one of you from Leonard H. Hammer.

Orange county, Va., Aug. 5, 1863

Dear Father, We are in camp three miles west of Orange Court House and we have warning to be ready to move at a moment's notice.

Gen. Morgan was captured in Ohio with nearly all of his force and he had five thousand under his command. Our troops are discouraged since we lost Vicksburg and Fort Hutson a month ago the two most important places that we had in the Confederacy. Josiah Siple was in Jordon's Spring hospital four miles below Winchester and I think that he is in the hands of the Yankees now.

When we left Winchester they followed us to Front Royal intending to cut us off from our pontoon bridges across the Shenandoah river. They fired on us after we had crossed and had taken up the pontoons. The weather was hot and we had to march hard which caused a good many stragglers and the Yankees got most of them. We have about given up hopes of getting back to Imboden again and I would much rather be with him for then we could get home occasionally. Col. Bradley Johnson has command of our Brigade since Gen. Jones was wounded. As ever, your son, Leonard H. Hammer.

Camp at Morton Ford, Orange Co., Va., Dec. 11, 1863

Dear Parents, John Kile has arrived and told us the news from home. You have not suffered as much as the people here where the Yankees have been encamped so long. Our Division had a fight with them Oct. 27th. The morning of the 27th our whole force moved down the Rapidan river to the left of Ewell's corps and Longstreet's corps was on the right. Johnson's Division was on a road near the river. The enemy came around in our rear intending to destroy our ordnance train. They had four lines of battle, marching on the left of the division when Johnson ordered a charge. We drove them back and held them in check until night then our whole force fell back to Mine Run and threw up breast works.

The next day their skirmishers advanced upon our sharpshooters to within two hundred yards and kept up a

heavy fire for two hours then fell back a few paces and threw up rifle pits while our forces were busy throwing up breast works. Our forces were in line of battle five days. The enemy then fell back across the river then we moved back to our old position. Barney Davis expects to go home on furlough soon. I would like to get a furlough this winter but we have to draw tickets and I have but one chance in eighteen. There is little to be had in the eating line. I bought some meal this morning at \$4.00 per gallon, by that you can guess what other things sell for. Harrison is well and will write to you soon.

Best regards from your son, Leonard H. Hammer.

LETTERS FROM WILLIAM HARRISON HAMMER

Grafton, Virginia, May 27, 1861

Dear homefolks, We have marched two hundred miles since we left home. I met with our relatives—the Caplingers in Beverly and found them to be very nice people. We have 1800 soldiers here and the excitement is high. We expected an attack here last night but it was not made. We have possession of this which is a public place, and we have the telegraph office guarded. We are now mustered with the Services of Virginia for the term of twelve months. Leonard is in our company and is well. Tell mother that we are not allowed to swear nor drink liquor. A bridge eighteen miles west of Grafton was burned last night. Tell all our friends that we are to fight for Virginia. We may not be here long so write soon and direct to Grafton, Taylor Co., Va. William H. Hammer.

Mount Summit, Alleghany Mountain, Dec. 4, 1861

Dear Father, We arrived here Friday and find the weather very cold. We have four regiments, three of which have already built huts with fireplaces and the other will be finished by next week. I never saw work done so fast in my life. A trench is being dug around the batteries and this takes four hundred hands. The Yankees are still on Cheat Mountain. We are ready for them, but I doubt if they attack us here. It is a sight to see how the cannon balls plow up the ground. We have nine pieces here that can do the work too. Two of them being twelve pounders! There are a lot of deer here. The boys killed two yesterday

—one a very large buck. Our company is still the same. We do not want to elect a captain, but continue as we have been for we may soon be mustered out of the Service. Tell Leonard not to come here until he feels stout, for this requires a stout constitution. Direct to Mt. Summit, Camp Alleghany, Maj. Rorgger Battallion, Franklin Guards. Your son, William H. Hammer.

Camp Alleghany, March 26, 1862

Dear Father, I see by your letter that you are much scared about the Yankees coming to the North Fork and I am truly sorry that they captured Brother George. I suppose that he will be sent to their headquarters at Wheeling. His experience will be equal to two years of schooling to him. I would like to come home but as my health is good and I have no official business it is not possible for me to get off. You come to see us. You can get into camp by telling the pickets that you have two sons in the 25th Regiment. Be sure to bring feed for your horse. I have never gotten the shirt and socks that mother sent me, and I am needing them. Capt. Lilly received a letter yesterday stating that Gen. Jackson is again in Winchester. Our force here is over 200 and the health of the camp is good although the weather is rough. We hear that our Militia are in Franklin and we are afraid that they will wear out all of the Government shoes!

Some of our men have joined Lilly's Cavalry and I would love to be with them if we could get horses. We are in good hopes that the next six months will find us a free and happy people. Your son, William Harrison Hammer.

Camp, near Port Republic, June 15, 1862

Dear Father, Edmond Johnson and Pinckney Jones came in camp last evening and said that you and mother were at Mr. Jones' last Sunday and that you were well. Since May 6th we have lost thirty-odd killed and wounded but still have fifty men left of Capt. Boggs' company and now are about to be armed with the Infield Rifles which we captured from the enemy. We overhauled Gen. Banks' army at Front Royal and captured one of his Maryland Regiments with a large amount of Military stores. We then followed him to Winchester where he took position and gave

us a hard fight but Jackson ordered a charge which set them on another retreat. We followed them as far as Harper's Ferry. The roads were illumened by the burning of their wagons. Gen. Jackson then fell back as Gen. Shields was near with his ten thousand men and was aiming to cut off our supplies.

Jackson next took his stand five miles S. E. of Harrisonburg, formed a line of battle and let Gen. Freemont make his attack. Gen. Shields tried to destroy the bridge so as to prevent our crossing. He made the attack with five regiments but we ran out six or seven pieces of artillery which caused them to retreat. We then brought our trains across and I was detailed to help Leonard with his wagon as he had a very sore foot. At ten o'clock Gen. Freemont with his ten thousand made an attack and the fight lasted until four in the evening. Of the large number wounded eleven were from our company. Dan Murphy lost his leg, Wm. Kiser lost his leg, Wm. Mitchell was shot through the foot and John C. Calhoun will lose his arm. This battle was fought principally by Gen. Ewell's Division and they lost about two thousand men. We have been camped for two days five miles east of Pleas Dice's place the first two days we have had to rest since May 6th. Yesterday was a day of thanks ordered by our General. We have ten thousand fresh men to come the first of the month. I haven't the least idea of the South ever being subdued by the Yankees. Write as soon as you have a chance to send it. Give my respects to the folks—but not to those who have deserted us.

Your son, William Harrison Hammer.

Charles City, near James River, July 5, 1862

Dear Parents, We had a desperate battle Friday a week ago. After several hours close engagement the enemy left the field in great disorder. This was the right wing of McClellan's army. When it was broken Gen. Jackson moved across the Chicohomany River to his center. Our troops are together and it seems that part of them are fighting all the time. But we have routed the enemy in battle and kept them from capturing Richmond. I think that one more fight if we are successful will end the war.

Mr. Simmons has been discharged and will carry this letter to you and he can tell you all the news. We hope to be moved back to the Valley soon as the water here is very bad. James Ruddle and Henry Payne are here and send their regards to you. Your son, William Harrison Hammer.

Charles City, 25 mi. east of Richmond, July 7, 1862

Dear Folks at Home, This country is level and has plenty of swamps. The water is bad—not clear and nice like the little brook that runs by the old blacksmith shop at home. However we must not complain for Providence has crowned us with great success. We have repulsed the enemy where ever we have met them. We think that Jackson's forces will be ordered to Richmond and from there I hope he will be sent down after Gen. Freemont. Our losses here have been shocking. The last battle was fought after dark and was not over until midnight. The enemy at one time played on us with thirty pieces of artillery. I drew my cap down tight on my head to keep the balls from blowing it off. Losses on both sides were very great. Leonard and I are both safe and send our regards. Your son, Wm. H. Hammer.

Caroline Co. Va., Camp near Port Royal, Dec. 25, 1862

Dear Friends at Home, We are getting very tired of war and wish that we could be at home today to enjoy Christmas in the happy way that we used to. I still belong to the Pionner Corps of Ewell's Division. During the battle of Fredericksburg I worked three night in succession. We threw up rifle pits or sand batteries and the Yankee sharpshooters annoyed us with their mines but did not injure us. Our Division did the greater part of the fighting at Fredericksburg and lost about nine hundred. Our whole loss is twenty five hundred. The enemy's loss is said to be eighteen thousand so you see it was a big battle. Our men fought with better courage than ever before. My company was in the charge and did nobly. Amos Propst was wounded in the face. Everything is now quiet and our troops are preparing for winter quarters for we may be here for some time. This is fine country and so far the winter has been very mild. Confederate scrip is plentiful but all food is scarce and high in price. Boots are \$40.00, shoes \$10.00,

Flour \$25. Whiskey \$25.00 per pint, Butter, sugar and honey \$2.00 per pound, and apples a dollar a dozen.

I do not know when any of us will get home as furloughs are scarce. Why can't father come to see us? Take the cars at Staunton, come to Gordonsville, from there to Hanover Junction, then take the Richmond and Fredericksburg Road which leads right into our camp.

Christmas Greetings to all the family and friends from William H. Hammer.

Caroline Co., Va., Camp at Buckner's Neck, Jan. 11, 1863

To Edmond Ruddle, Dear Cousin, We boys are all well and pretending to be in fine spirits! We are proud to hear that you have again put your shoulders under the muskets. You write that you are having hard times. Well, Ed, you don't know anything about hard times—or never will unless Gen. Jackson gets hold of you. Then you will know nothing but hard marching and hard fighting. He will load you down with ammunition and feed you bread and beef—and just before a battle or a march he will allow you a thimbleful of sugar and sometimes a little corn for coffee.

We have an army here of 110,000 scattered from Fredericksburg to Port Royal. The Yankees are lying on the other side of the Rappahannock river. Their pickets are friendly and sometimes we get in a small skiff and paddle over to them. They will swap a pound of coffee for a plug of tobacco. We are strongly fortified for twenty miles along the river and if they will come over we are certain of another victory. I am sure Gen. Lee will cross over to their side if they give him any more sass. My regiment and the 44th have been transferred to the 2nd Brigade in Jackson's Division. Your brother James is well and one of our best soldiers. He wants you to tell your father to have him a pr. of boots made and sent soon. He also wants a pair of pants and a roundybout (a short, close-jacket). He hasn't had a letter from home for five months and wants them to write. He and the other boys—I. D. Hinkle, A. W. Bible, Dick Blewitt, and Brother Leonard send their respects to you. Address your letter to Wm. H. Hammer, Co. E, 25th Regiment, Va. Volunteers, Gen. Jones' Brigade, Jackson's Division.

Caroline Co., Va., Camp near Buckner's Neck,
January 20, 1863

Dear Folks, I have had no letter since Nov. 7th which is a long time. I was detailed to drive a team in the commissary train and while at that fared very well in the eating line—much better than in the company—and more than that I had no hard fighting to do, but it is more than I am able to tell you of the sights that I have witnessed of hundreds of dead and wounded lying over the many battlefields. It is no telling when I may have to meet the overflow in the field again. There is nothing between the enemy and us but the Rappahannock river and our pickets are in sight of each other. I have \$330.00 that I want to send home soon. Blewitt is leaving here in the morning so I will send this letter home by him. Your son, Wm. H. Hammer.

Feb. 11, 1863, I am still stationed at Buckner's Neck in Va. Capt. Boggs, Uncle James Ruddle, George Blewitt and Jesse Hartman came in on the 9th and I do not know when I was as proud to see any one since I have been in the army! Uncle brought your letter which I am glad to have and he will give you all the news about our condition and the army.

We expect to stay here awhile as the roads are impassible for our heavy artillery. Capt. Johnson again takes command of our company. He has been under an arrest four months. Lieut. Propst has been promoted to Quarter Master of the Regiment. Jackson Wilson and I are next in line for a furlough and our applications were approved this morning and forwarded by the Colonel of our regiment and it will be some time before we can get off. When I get home I want you to have me a pair of pants, a coat and a shirt prepared and ready as my stay will be short. I am thankful for sister Sarah's letter and will write to her later. Uncle James will leave here tomorrow. He is pleased with this company—known as the "Fighting Company E" in the old 25th Va. Regiment and will give you the news. Wm. H. Hammer.

Camp near King's Hotel, Augusta Co., Va., April 18, 1863

Dear Parents, We received orders from the War Department to march to this place the tenth and it was a sol-

emn time—leaving those good comrades who had fought and bled with us in so many conflicts. We left the train at Staunton, laid by over Sunday and went to church and heard a good sermon preached by Rev. John Dice. We joined Gen. Imboden's command on the 14th cooked three days rations then marched across the mountain. The next day Imboden's Conscripts took their places in our front. As we were taking the foot of Shaw's Ridge we were ordered to turn back and got here at dark having marched twenty three miles and nearly getting drowned in the river. Gen. Imboden's men have better rations than we had when we were with Gen. Lee. The most of his cavalry have been sent down the Valley to reinforce Gen. Jones as he was being pressed by Gen. Milroy. Had it not been for this we would be in Hardy county. We have no Lee, Longstreet nor Jackson to cheer us here. We hear that Lee has moved up the Rappahannock river some twenty miles and will cross over if Gen. Hooker will not make the attack. We have 100,000 troops there, well equipped and well drilled, in high spirits and willing to meet the Enemy at any time. May God be with them.

There was a revival going on there when we left. Gen. Jackson ordered that there be no morning drill and requested his men to attend church. Edmond Johnson and Chapman Boggs are here now and giving us the war news from Pendleton Co. Leonard drew a suit of clothes recently so does not need any more. Direct your letter to Wm. H. Hammer, Co. E. 35th., Va. Regiment, Imboden's Brigade, Augusta Co., Virginia.

Camp at Fredericksburg, Va., June 1, 1863.

Dear Father, I have landed safe in Fredericksburg which was unexpected when I left you last Monday. We got to Augusta Springs Tuesday morning where we received orders to report at Staunton by 4 o'clock. We gave a yell or two, then struck for town, passed by the 62 and I saw Brother Geo. gave him the cakes and socks that Sarah sent then went to town and joined my regiment who with the 31st had taken their seats on the iron horse and when the train moved out many ladies cheered as we passed.

We got to the Junction this morning, took the Fred-

ericksburg Road and landed here this evening, found our soldiers in high spirits and looking better than they did when we left last April, and the horses are in good order. We think that Gen. Lee is preparing to advance. Gen. Longstreet has moved up the river with his corps and our division is waiting orders. Our troops are scattered forty miles—as far as Orange Court House. The Yankee army is up the river several miles. We can see a great many tents and see them drilling. We are now in our old brigade known as Early's Brigade. He is now in command of the Division—Gen. Ewell's Commanding Corps, the very man we want. Do not be uneasy about us. Your son, Wm. H. Hammer.

Camp at Brandy Station, Culpepper Co., Va., Oct. 26, 1863.

Dear Father, I guess that You have heard about our late advance on Gen. Meade and his army. Lee handled him splendidly. We were about equally divided about fifty thousand on either side. We can always thrash them if we have half a chance. This time we outflanked them. We started from Orange Court house, passed through by Madison Court House, on down through Culpepper, Fauquier Co. to Manassas leaving their main body to our right from one to five miles. They commenced fighting on the 11th. There was Cavalry fighting at first. Hill got into a stiff engagement at Bristo Station and lost five pieces of artillery but finally won and captured five hundred prisoners. The Yankees fell back on the opposite side of Bull Run in their strong fortifications. Lee was obliged to fall back to this place for want of rations and horse feed. Our loss was heavy. We captured three thousand prisoners and tore up the rail road from Manassas to Rappahonnack bridge some thirty five miles. We may be here some time for I think that we are to feed all our grass and hay in this county to keep the enemy from getting it. This was once the prettiest country in all Eastern Virginia but is now destroyed and many of the fine homes have been burned and no stock is to be seen. I wonder how the North can ever expect to prosper, or expect to conquer a civilized people who are only fighting for their rights and liberties which I now feel confident if faithful will soon secure them all. One man in

this Brigade had one side of his head shaved and doomed out of the Service yesterday for desertion.

Dear Mother, My love to you. I think of you often. I do pray that hostilities will soon cease and treaty of peace declared so that your sons may receive their honorable discharges from the army and return home. I was much effected when I heard of Uncle Jacob Harper's death on Sept. 22nd. I have lost two of my best loved Uncles since the war began (Uncle James W. Byrd died also of fever, July 1, 1862). I am getting along here pretty well—as a soldier. We expect a supply of clothing tomorrow and I will get a suit. I have never drawn anything since I was at home, then last week we drew \$44.00 and expect to draw some more in a few days. We were all out of money for about two months. Leonard is well and sends his love. Do the best you can and do not worry. Think of these people who have been driven from their homes. Regard to all my friends and love to you until death. Your son, Harrison.

Camp At Morton's Ford, Dec. 19, 1863

Dear Father, By this time you have heard of my being under an arrest. I was on guard duty some three weeks ago, guarding about seventy five rebellious prisoners of this brigade, two of which were to be shot to death the next morning at seven o'clock. They were chained but succeeded in cutting their chains off and breaking guard that night—crossing out between me and the next sentinal. We could not shoot them on account of men sleeping on the opposite side of the way they ran and it being very dark they were out of sight in three or four jumps. I at once raised the alarm by calling for the guard to turn out which was nothing more nor less than my duty. The officer of the guard was arrested next morning. Myself and the sentinal next to me were put under guard for ten days. I think that I have been most shamefully treated. The punishment is nothing but I abhor the name of the thing to reach home. I have the privilege of going to my company at meal time—and do not have to stand guard. I expect to be released in a few days as I can prove my innocence by several men.

Tell sister Sarah that we shall answer her good letter

soon. Leonard and I send regards to all. Your son, William Harrison Hammer.

Prisoner's Camp, Elmira, New York, Nov. 1, 1864

Dear Father, From this message you will learn that I am still in the land of the living. Leonard is well but I have been laid up with scurvy, from a lack of suitable food, however I am beginning to get better.

The boys from Pendleton here with us are Bill Hedrick, Ami Eye, Adam Bible, Joe Elyard, Dick Blewitt. George Johnson, Jack Wilson, Bill Masters, Isaac Henkle. James H. Ruddle and the three Davis boys and we are all hoping for better times to turn up soon. I would have written sooner but had not the means of buying a postage stamp. Regards from your son, Wm. H. Hammer. Address your letter to Prisoner of War, No. 3 Barracks, Ward 48 in care of Major Colt, Elmira, New York.

The next letter was in an envelope with a three cent stamp attached and bearing the stamp and seal of the censor as follows: "Prisoner's letter Examined." At Elmira, New York.

Prisoners' Camp, Elmira, New York, Jan. 5, 1865

Mr. George Hammer, Dear Father, Sir: Your letter of the 25th with one dollar and five cents enclosed for us was received yesterday and we are glad to hear of your good health and also to receive the money for we know that you have a hard way of getting along without sending money to us. Since I wrote you before Leonard received five dollars from Mr. George Harman.

Tell mother that we have clothing as we each received a bundle a few days ago from Virginia City.

Sam Dickenson died the 2nd of this month. Thirty-odd have died out of our regiment since we were first captured. Abel and John M. Ruddle are prisoners at Camp Chase, Ohio. Regards to all our friends. William H. Hammer.

Prisoners' Camp, Elmira, New York, Jan. 18, 1865

Mr. Sam Arnold, Dear Sir: Will you be so kind as to send me some money? Or, if more convenient, send me a box containing bread stuff and some home-made, or chewing tobacco. Also send a bunch of horse hair and I will make you a fine watch chain. By such a favor you will very

much oblige a friend. I am very able to repay you at a no distant day. I belong to the 25th Virginia Regiment. When at home my address is Franklin, Pendleton Co., Virginia. I have not the pleasure of hearing from my dear parents and have no hopes for any exchange. Write me as soon as you get this and direct to Prisoner of War, No. 3 Barracks, Ward 48 in care of Major Bealle, Elmira, New York. Yours very truly William H. Hammer.

(Note: Gen. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, April 9, 1865, then the boys came home.)

Camp Chase in time of the Civil War was located four miles from Columbus, the Capitol city of Ohio. The camp contained a number of weather-boarded houses somewhat open to the weather which made them uncomfortable in the winter. The prisoners slept on straw bunks and were furnished with blankets. The prison yard contained only three acres and with the great number of prisoners there was not room for exercise and there was much sickness due to poor diet and contagious diseases like small pox, etc.

The city in later years built out to the site of the prison. Nothing of it remains except the cemetery where 2260 soldiers are buried who perished there. There is a very large monument built in the shape of an arch and surmounted by the figure of a Confederate soldier. The graves are marked and cared for by members of the U. D. C. Chapters and they are decorated each Decoration Day with flowers and small United States Flags. Although there were a number of deaths among the 63 prisoners from Pendleton county, the Hammers, and Ruddles, who were their cousins, escaped, lived to be old men and could tell of many thrilling experiences.

With these old letters there is preserved a memory of what the boys of the Four Years of Civil War in the United States of America endured for the "Cause" or the "Rights" which they defended so loyally. It is sad to think that "Nothing has ever been decided by WAR that could not have been decided without it."

Mrs. John A. Logan, wife of the great Volunteer General, noticed while visiting Richmond in March 1868, that the Confederate women decorated the graves of their dead.

Upon her return she mentoned this to General Logan, who was Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. He said that it was a beautiful custom and worthy of being copied.

Thereupon he issued the first order that May 30, 1868, be observed as Decoration Day, and this was so enthusiastically received that Congress made it a National holiday.

EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY KEPT BY GEORGE HAMMER (3)

Who had four sons in the Confederate Service.

1861 May 14th, The Volunteers started out of town. John Moomau Captain of Franklin Guards.

May 18th the Regiment met in town and started the second company of 115 volunteers, David C. Anderson, Captain.

June 9th the Pendleton Regiment marched to Monterey, thence on the 10th went seven miles to Hevener's store.

June 11 the third volunteer company of 120 men was sent to the battle field.

June 6th the Franklin Guards retreated home from Philippi.

June 9th they started back to Huttonsville in Randolph county.

June 15th they retreated the second time from Western Virginia.

June 17th, the army passed up the pike to Franklin.

1862, February 6th Leonard went to Alleghany.

March 2, George Wash was captured and did not get home until December 31st.

1863, Feb. 4th he went to Warm Springs to join his company.

March 2, William H. H. Hammer came home from Richmond and went back the 8th.

March 10th the Franklin Guards went to the North Fork, and the 21st scouts went to Mallow's Settlement and captured two prisoners.

March 28th, the Company went to Strait Creek.

VISIT FROM AN OLD SOLDIER

December 19, 1921 Hendron Davis in his 83rd year paid us a visit and told us some of his Civil War experiences. He belonged to Stonewall Jackson's army, Ed. John-

son's Brigade, Company E, 25th Virginia Regiment. In his old age he could remember only eight who were in his company besides himself. They were Captain Ed Boggs, Sergeant Dick Blewitt, Jack Wilson, Add Bible, Isaac and Adam Hinkle, and Dan Murphy from Hardy county, and Aaron Rexrode. This was his story: "Our company was sent out as scouts from Washington Camp at Palmer's Mill on North River to keep trace of General Fremont, to report his maneuvers and to annoy him all we could, and I was chosen pilot as I was acquainted with every foot of the country. General Milroy with a Federal army, came by Staunton and Parkersburg Pike to McDowell, Va., and the generals Fremont and Schenck were marching up the valley from Keyser with 15,000 men to reinforce Gen. Milroy. Jackson struck Milroy on Bull Pasture Mountain and after a hard fight Milroy was defeated and driven back. Jackson followed them almost to Franklin, then leaving a regiment of cavalry at Camp Milroy went back to the Valley of Virginia where he defeated General Banks at Winchester, and drove him to Harper's Ferry. Then Fremont turned about and went back to attack Jackson at Strasburg. This was happening the first part of the month of May. But to go back to our company of scouts that started from Palmer's Mill. We came to the foot of the Shenandoah mountain, then to Hiner's Mill, two miles north of Doe Hill, and stopped at Rexrode's; then we came on down the mountain where we could see over into Franklin.

We held a consultation at sundown and decided to enter the town and burn the enemy's supplies which we knew were stored there, and kill all of the sick and wounded, but just as we were ready to start we saw a regiment of cavalry ride into the town and go into camp and we knew that this was the advance guard of Fremont's army, and this changed our plans. Dick Blewitt and Jack Wilson then went into the town, entered their lines and talked with some of the citizens, then we went on down the mountain and lay that night at Jim Ruddle's. The next day we went on the high cliff of rocks at Wilson Hole and watched to count the number of regiments in Fremont's army as they marched up the valley. Gen. Fremont and another officer were riding

side by side with my Grandfather, Ulrey Conrad, whom they had taken prisoner, riding between them. As the bulk of the army had passed I would have shot both of the officers but could not shoot them without shooting my grandfather. After they had all passed Dick Blewitt and Add Bible went across their path and got us some good apple brandy of Uncle Ale Hammer. That night we crossed the Branch again—Ben Hammer set us across on a horse, and we cut the enemy's telegraph wires at a number of places near the old school house at Paw Paw Spring.

We tied the wires across the road just high enough to drag a man off his horse. We had no tools to work with except an old butcher knife and a rock. When they could send out no messages they came, yet that night, to investigate. We got up on the bank and hid in the laurel thicket near the old school nouse, and when they came riding fast they were swept from their horses, and of all swearing that was ever done—it was done then. Some of them were pretty badly crippled, but they all got away. We lay still until after they had gone, then went up to Mrs. Mary Ann Byrd's and lay under the big oak tree on the hill above her house, and the next morning watched some of them stealing her chickens. They got quite near us but the brush was thick and they never discovered us.

In their anger they were threatening to burn every house along the South Branch. They arrested James W. Byrd and took him to the prison in Franklin to try to make him tell who cut their wires. He explained that it was none of the citizens but that it was likely the scouts of Johnson's brigade in Jackson's army, and it was through his explanation that the burning was abandoned at that time. Our scouts next went down the mountain where they held a council and I was detailed to go back to the high cliff to watch the road to see if any more of Fremont's army was coming, and the others started along the mountain to go to report to Jackson's army at Bull Pasture Mountain. When they reached Buffalo Spring in Trout Run two of them were sent into the Meadows home to get some provisions. There they ran into Yankee pickets who captured them and the fight which followed was the cause of the death of an in-

nocent man, and all the years since we have had guilty feelings that it was brought about by the maneuvers of our scouting party."

LETTERS FROM AN OLD SOLDIER

About twenty years after the Civil War George Harper who lived near what had been the Meadows home, moved to Gibson City, Illinois, and there had a neighbor, Samuel Johnston, who became interested in him when he learned that he was from Pendleton county and related to him many of his experiences while he was here as a soldier. He was a sergeant under Captain Henry Kuderly, in Company H. and he told that all through the years he had been troubled about a family—a young mother and three very small children left destitute after the father had been killed and the home burned and he had so often wondered if they survived and what became of them. Mr. Harper told him that he knew them and gave him my mother's address and they exchanged letters for some time. Then after thirty more years my mother had died and the letters were lost, and remembering about them, I wrote to the aged soldier who answered me promptly and seemed glad to correspond with me.

He wrote me that Colonel Zigler of his regiment ordered Captain R. B. McCall with Company B. out to investigate the report that their scout had brought to camp of the fight that had taken place near the home of Mr. Meadows. Colonel Zigler, and Major Creps of an Ohio Regiment, went with them and when a short distance up the creek they met Meadows, arrested him and charged him with harboring their enemies. He explained his innocence and begged for a fair trial, but the men were too enraged to listen to him and Major Creps shot him, and the mill and home were burned. Captain McCall told it later to me that he had begged Colonel Zigler not to burn the home and put the mother and children out, but without avail.

"After their return to Franklin late that evening, I was sent out with twenty men to reconnoiter. We spent the night on the mountain and next morning went down to the mouth of the creek and followed it up a short distance to where we found the body of the dead man near the side of

the road where he had been killed. Then we went to where the house was burnt and found the mother lying on some bedding in the yard with a young baby in her arms and two little tots on the ground by her. One of our men made her some coffee and gave her some of our rations, such as we had; then we went further up the creek and on the way met her mother and a boy going to her. On our way back that evening they were still there. We took the boy a distance up the creek then told him that the man was killed and where to find his body. We did not tell the wife and she thought that he had been taken as a prisoner. His death was a cruel murder without cause or provocation on his part and the whole transaction was condemned by nearly all of the officers and men. I later heard that Creps was discharged from the service and I never learned what became of him. There were other deaths caused by accident but this was a cruel, wanton murder. I will gladly write you and give you further information as far as I can.

Yours very respectfully, Samuel Johnston."

Later, I had a letter from his daughter, Mrs. Ella Shaw of Champaign, Illinois, telling me of the death of her father who died September 16, 1914 in his 85th year and how all through the years he lamented the death of an innocent man and she wrote of the strange circumstances that after so many years led to the writing of letters.

I have a good picture of Samuel Johnston and his wife that they sent to my mother. He wrote that he would like to come to Pendleton county to see the wonderful scenery in these mountains—but never on another such a mission as the one he came on before.

FROM A LETTER BY GENERAL McCOY

TO HIS ABSENT DAUGHTERS, MAY 28, 1862

For about three weeks we were constantly annoyed by foraging and scouting parties.

Gen. Schienck of Ohio undertook to march a large force from New Creek by way of Franklin to Monterey, there to join Gen. Milroy and march to Staunton. Gen. Schienck remained about three days in Franklin and upon my invitation made his headquarters in my house and we

were pleased with him and his staff and the conduct of the troops under his command. He afterward marched to McDowell and joined the forces of Gen. Milroy, attacking Gen. Johnson by whom they were repulsed and driven back to this place where they were joined by Gen. Freemont with a very large reinforcement. The whole army said to be twenty thousand strong were encamped two weeks in and around Franklin and having many sick and wounded nearly every home in town has been converted into a hospital, and there has been a great mortality among the troops. One Lieutenant from Ohio died in our house.

Great fear was felt last Sunday a week ago that a battle would be fought exactly in Franklin. There was a good deal of firing of artillery and small arms without any loss on either side.

Gen. Jackson pursued the U. S. Troops to within one mile of town but finding Gen. Schienck in position of all the strong points around here was compelled to fall back again in the direction of McDowell and Staunton.

Yesterday morning the whole army of Gen. Freemont commenced a hasty retreat toward Petersburg or New Creek and today the whole of the army is gone, leaving 125 sick and wounded men behind. This morning a body of Confederate cavalry came in and made prisoners of most of the men who had been left to take care of the sick, and captured some fifty or sixty stands of guns and some other things.

Both armies having been camped here we have suffered very great loss from pillage, the burning of fences and killing of stock.

We have no mails here any more and can hear nothing of the operations of the Confederate army. Nothing could afford us as much pleasure as it would give us to know that peace was made.

Chapter VII

TRAGEDY AND ACHIEVEMENT

MEADOWS ANCESTRY

Ambrose Meadows, Sr. who came to settle in Pendleton county was born near Elkton, Virginia, January 25, 1831 and killed in Pendleton county then Virginia, May 9, 1862. He was a son of John and Mary (Harness) Meadows and a grandson of James Meadows who died in 1844 at the age of eighty four years. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and is buried five miles east of Elkton, Va. in the "Old Hensley Graveyard" close to where he lived and reared his family. He fought in the battles of Burnt Chimneys and Hot Water in 1781 near Williamsburg in which the American force was made up of all picked men. He received a pension of \$80.00 per year, the last twelve years of his life for his services, and as his great, great-granddaughter I had a marker placed to his grave in 1942. He was a successful doctor of his time, compounding his medicines from native plants and herbs. He wrote his own name and knew much of the Scripture by heart. This was told to me by his granddaughter, Lucinda (Meadows) Hawkins who was his constant companion in her early childhood.

He was of the Scotch ancestry who first began to settle in Virginia in 1732 which was two years before Orange county was formed. He married Catherine Boswell and they had a family, and have many descendants.

It is his son John Meadows, my great-grandfather in whom I am interested; also in his wife Mary and her Harness ancestors. She was a very small, neat lady and her husband was a tall mountaineer, very fond of the chase and had many exciting stories that he told of his hunting experiences.

They had six daughters and five sons of which Ambrose was their seventh child. As he had four brothers to help on the farm he decided to seek his fortune west of the mountain so he came to Pendleton county which then seem-

ed a great distance in the frontier.

He hired to Henry Halterman, a well to do blacksmith, living in Franklin. He liked the work which was very profitable at that time and after learning the trade decided to go into business for himself, so built a shop in the southern part of the town and with a hot iron burned a large sign bearing his name and after all the years it may still be seen.

He was a great singer and a student of the Bible. His education was pretty good for his day and he felt that he had a call to become a minister of the Gospel, so purchased some books and studied hard whenever he had a chance. He was ordained by the United Brethren church and January 16, 1860 was granted a license to preach the Gospel by order of their Quarterly Conference, signed by George W. Rexrode, Presiding Elder of the Conference. The original document, yellow with age, is in the hands of the writer.

George W. Hammer who heard him, said that he preached well prepared sermons and with his Spiritual and musical talents was a success as a minister. He believed in Peace and explained that differences should be settled without war.

Not long after coming to Franklin he met Catherine, the youthful daughter of George and Mary (Harper) Hammer and after a short but ardent courtship they were married at the residence of her parents on the 16th day of December 1858, by Rev. John D. Freed. The certificate to obtain the marriage license, also the returns of the Pastor, were filed in the Clerk's office at Franklin and were rescued from the terrible fire of April 17, 1924, and are in possession of the writer, as also are some of his books and two letters that were written by him later while in camp. He and his wife went to housekeeping in Franklin in a house near his blacksmith shop and their twin daughters, Mary and Phebe, were born there October 28, 1859. After another year he moved to the Buffalo Spring, a short distance up Trout Run, which empties into the South Branch, as this was a better location for his work.

When the war first came on he was attached to the Pendleton Regiment of Col. Jacob F. Johnson's Skirmish Drill, in which there was training for Pickett posts and

other duties. He later became a member of Company A, 46th Regiment of the Virginia Militia under Captain Mitchell. In a letter from camp near Winchester, Va., he wrote his wife that he was helping to build huts for the soldiers as the weather was cold and many of them were ill of an epidemic of dysentery.

In a later message he stated that he had contracted the illness and Captain Mitchell let him go to the home of his parents near Elkton for treatment and that he spent one night in New Market where he got medicine of Dr. Hinkle. After arriving at the home of his parents he became violently ill and despaired of ever seeing her and the children again, but after some time his recovery was sufficient for him to come to them, where he was to stay until he would be able to go into the Service again. But conditions changed rapidly and trivial incidents produced vibrations which set in motion tremendous wheels of circumstances which caused his death.

THE OLD HAMMER SAW MILL

This old mill witnessed many events during the Civil War. After the bloody battle of McDowell, May 8, 1862, the Federal army defeated fell back to Franklin and extended several miles north of the town. The Confederate Army was in the valley near McCoy's Mill three miles south of the town, and for several days there was tense waiting for a terrible battle to be fought as the Federals were expecting reinforcements from the north. During this time both armies sent out scouts through the hills and mountains surrounding the town and vicinity. A telegraph line down the valley belonging to the Federals was severed by the Confederate scouts and the Federals swore that in vengeance every thing along the South Branch would be burned. Some of their scouts went to the home of Ambrose Meadows, which was near this old saw mill, to get food. The mother, who was very ill, had her servant to give them a crock of milk from the spring, which was all she had to offer. While they were drinking the milk some Rebel scouts likewise in search of food went to the house and were captured and a fight ensued during which one of the Federal Scouts escaped and ran to their headquarters in Franklin and report-

ed terrible news of how they had gone into a house to get food and were set upon by the enemy's bushwhackers who beat out the brains of one of their scouts, and that this family was harboring their bushwhackers; so in the excitement a squad of Federal soldiers was ordered to the scene and on their way they met Mr. Meadows who had been away from home and was coming quietly along the road. He was arrested and told that if he did not tell who cut their wires he would be tortured by burning slowly to death, and they set the old mill on fire preparing for the terrible deed.

He begged them for a trial at their headquarters and pleaded his innocence before God in Heaven, and kneeling asked God to take care of his wife and three helpless children.

The leader said, "We have no time for prayers," so he was shot through the head while still kneeling and his body was mangled by the piercing of their bayonets.

The old mill burned and the soldiers marched on to the Meadows home demanding to know who cut their wires. As the wife could not tell them they set fire to the house, telling her that they would burn her alive. She was ill in bed with a young baby and when she tried to get out she fainted and fell back into the bed, and some of the men carried her out on her bed tick and tossed all of her cover into the flames except two quilts. The mother and children were left to starve. Their sufferings and how they were rescued makes a lengthy chapter in the story.

The saw mill was rebuilt after the war was over and is still standing and some of the timbers from the burnt mill may yet be seen as proof of those sad and trying days of the Civil War.

As the use for sawed lumber increased and the demand became greater, two of the brothers-in-law of George Hammer built saw mills run by water power, patterned after the original, and these three mills furnished all the lumber needed in that section until the circular saw, run by the steam engine, came into use.

George Hammer (3), who built, owned and operated the saw mills, sold large bills of lumber and kept strict ac-

counts with his customers. From the first mill 1859, 1860 and 1861, he received as much as 1 cent to 1½ cents per running foot and in 1861 he sold John Lough lumber to build a house for \$36.00. They settled in 1866 and he gave him credit for helping to make water wheels, \$29. The house is still standing in 1949 and in good condition because it has been kept painted.

After the burning of the first mill he built a second and stated that he used twelve trees, and to help pay for them he hauled three poplar logs and sawed 1500 ft. of 3/4 inch plank.

Some of his customers listed in his account book were William Blizzard, Jacob Bolton, Ed Boggs, John Bowers and Bodkin, Coatney, Columbus Crigler, (Court House rebuilt), George Dahmer, George W. and Reuben Dice, William J. Davis, Reverend Griffeth, John Hammer, John T. Harold, John Harman, John D. Harper, Cyrus Halterman, James W. Kee, John W. Lough, Henry H. Masters, George Mallow, D. G. McClung, Joseph W. Nelson, James H., Tom and Sam Priest, John Riddle, John and Jacob Swadley, Jacob Simmons, Joel Siples, George Smucher, Stephen Thacker, and John E. Wilson. He accepted from James W. Kee Confederate Currency \$23, which was a total loss. One of the other accounts he brought suit against and all the rest were balanced satisfactorily.

George Hammer (3) was also a good cabinet maker and supplied many of the homes with nice furniture and for many years made the coffins that were needed in the community, his prices ranging from \$1.50 for a child to as much as ten dollars for a walnut coffin well lined; and for an extra large box and cover, called a case, the price was two dollars.

George Hammer (3) was assured that he would at sometime be reimbursed for war losses for himself and for his daughter, Mrs. Catherine Meadows, so preserved this record, but never received any returns.

DESTRUCTION OF AMBROSE MEADOWS AND HIS PROPERTY ON MAY 9, 1862, BY THE YANKEES

List of property destroyed.

3 bed stids and bedding	\$40.75
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2 cupboards	29.00
100 books	30.00
Dishes, crocks, etc.	30.00
Tin ware, coffee mill and coffee	8.75
Stove and pots	35.00
One oven and pot	3.50
Clock and razers	10.00
16 chairs	24.00
3 tables and one cradle	14.00
50 yards of carpet, umbrella and oil cloths	30.00
Bacon, lard, meal, flour and potatoes	28.75
Shoemaker bench and tools, tubs and buckets	8.75
Corn, sugar and molasses	14.00
Dried fruit	1.50
10 bu. wheat and 7 Bu. buckwheat	27.00
1 bellows and mandril	20.00
Six new homemade axes	14.00
2 wheel barrows, ironed	16.00
1 rifle gun and two pouches	25.00
6 hoes, and shovels	3.75
1 reed	.50
Blacksmith shop and tools	100.00
Leather, 8 Prs. shoes and clothing	64.60
17 Prs. socks and 4 Prs. stockings	12.50
Bridle, martingale and saddle pockets	11.75
1 copper kettle and some barrels	7.00
3 hogs	25.00
Plow, fire tongs and smoothing irons	6.00
Money and jewelry taken by the soldiers	75.00

GEORGE HAMMER'S DAMAGES DURING THE CIVIL WAR

May 28, 1861 and 1862

9 blankets	\$30.00
4 pairs of boots	14.00
15 shirts	15.00
3 hats	3.75
1862	
5 hay stacks (Yankees)	60.00
110 bushels of corn	110.00
10 bushels of rye	10.00
5 bushels of wheat	10.00

May 9th, Saw mill burnt	650.00
May 9th 6000 Ft. of plank burned	115.75
10 camp houses burned	250.00
1 wagon and one anvil	42.50
3 grain cradles and spreaders	15.25
21 Bu. buckwheat	21.00
5 head cattle	220.00
3 head cattle	90.00
May 15, 20 hogs	90.00
May 17, 10 sheep	50.00
May 17 2 horses and one stallion	325.00
May 17, 2 saddles, 4 bridles and halters	45.25
May 17, 120 lbs. of bacon	24.00
May 20, grain and pasturing meadows	50.00
May 20, moneys paid for meadows	75.85
This was only by the Yankees up to Dec. 2, 1863	
September, Averill's Raid, 10 sheep and 5 hogs	50.00

THE CONFEDERACY DR.

1861 1 gun and shot pouch	15.00
1861 Boarded Southern Cavalery, 13 days and nights	13.00
Later, The Yankees captured one mare	150.00
and 95 Bu. corn	95.00
Later, the Confederate Government got three cattle	153.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL	2793.35

A SURE CURE FOR SORE THROAT

This was written by George Hammer (3) March 22, 1861.

To one gill strong apple cider add one tablespoon salt, one of honey, half a pod of red pepper, or half a teaspoon of ground, black pepper. Boil all together, then add half pint of strong sage tea. For a child in severe cases half a teaspoonful every hour and for an adult one teaspoonful every hour. As the canker decreases decrease the frequency of the dose.

THE HAMMER BONE MILL

The Hammer Bone Mill was built by Benjamin S. Hammer, a son of George and Mary Harper Hammer, and its construction which was begun about 1880, covered perhaps, a period of about five years, as Mr. Hammer drew all

the plans and made all the parts himself except the castings which he had made to order at Broadway, Va.

The eight-foot water wheel, able to develop eight horse power, had a cog gearing with a smaller wheel which ran into the main power shaft and with this power he ran all of his machinery.

He ground feed, bones, etc., and with another attachment made chicken coops, shingles and various other things. He also had a large grindstone hitched to this power so that axes and other implements could be sharpened. The old mill is still standing and was in use until the great flood in 1926 washed out the dam and the mill race which carried the water to turn the large water wheel.

Benjamin Hammer was a genius with great mechanical insight, for he worked out all plans for this network of machinery without having ever seen anything like it, and it is the only mill of its kind perhaps in the world. Every pulley and all the woodwork is made by hand, first sawing the timbers on the old up-and-down saw mill, then chiseling and working them out to his needs and desires.

There were six of the heavy stampers made of oak lumber 6x8 and about six feet high. These when in gear with the main shaft stamped and mashed the bones into fine pieces which were then run through the buhrs and ground fine for use as fertilizer.

This was an important center for about forty years. People gathered and brought bones from far and near, and one of the older citizens remarked, when the children were gathering scrap iron, that it reminded her of seeing the youngsters gathering bones for the Hammer Bone Mill!

AN OLD GRIST MILL LINKS THE HISTORY OF TWO CENTURIES

The mill is the trade-mark of civilization. Where the mortar and pestle satisfied the aborigine, the mill was essential to the welfare of the settler. The application of wheels to the art of grinding of grain was a long step from primitive to modern life. The mill is an index to a mode of life, a symbol of society, the vanguard of a new order. One of the first evidences of the permanency of a settlement in pioneer times was the erection of a mill, which became

the focal point of community interest, and one of the proofs of our youth as a nation is the indifference with which we regard these passing landmarks.

If the story of every old mill could be told it would cover fairly well the history of our early agriculture. It would reveal the hopes of the pioneer, the struggles of the settler, the achievements of the farmer and reflect the changes in existence from the log cabin to the modern homestead. It would touch on political trends, public sentiment, current issues and the infinite maze of local affairs which make up our national life. Most of these old mills are no longer in existence, others crumble in various stages of decay. Some have taken on new life and are hardly recognized in their modern efficiency; while a few still flourish as in the older order of things, apparently little changed by time, and these it seems to us form an interesting link with a vanished past.

The Old McCoy Mill at the mouth of the Thorn three miles south of Franklin, stands in 1940 as firm after ninety-two years as when its heavy timbers were pinned together. Driven by the swift current of the Thorn river, it is still giving service, as it with its predecessor served soldiers of three wars and the citizens of many generations.

The Thorn empties into the South Branch of the Potomac only a few rods from where it turns the old mill wheel. It is a tributary almost as large as the South Branch at their junction and is formed by two branches, the White Thorn and the Black Thorn, which unite farther up the mountain and perhaps derive their name from that of the pioneer settler. Both of these streams rise near the Highland county line and are increased along their courses by numerous mountain springs. The South Branch was called by the Indians, "Wappatomika," which meant "River of Wild Geese." With its tributaries, the North Fork and the South Fork, it flows north—but does not flow uphill as a small school girl once exclaimed to her teacher when they were tracing the courses on the map. Having a fall of thirty feet to the mile these streams are clear and swift. The Mouth of the Thorn has been an important center since this fertile valley was a frontier wilderness known as



OLD MCCOY MILL
At the Mouth of the Thorn

“West Augusta.” The first white person to visit it was John Vanmeter, a Dutch trader from the state of New York who came up the valley in 1735 with a band of Delaware Indians in a raid against the Catawbias. They advanced as far south as the Mouth of the Thorn where they were met by their adversaries and being whipped did not go farther but retreated down the valley. Vanmeter fled with them, but in his haste did not fail to notice the fertility of the soil, nor advantages of location along the way. Upon his return he pictured this wild valley to his sons and their friends, advising them to visit it which they later did and helped to make it known to the outside world. At first only explorers and traders came, but by 1747 two streams of immigration had begun to touch the borders of what is now Pendleton county. These were the Scotch Irish from the southeast, and German families from the north moving up the South Branch. So early that the date is not locally known, an iron foundry was operated in this section. The oldest resident now living in Franklin tells of when it was a bit of remembered history and was often spoken of by her folks of the generations now past and gone.

Governor Spottswood had iron furnaces built on his estate near Fredericksburg, and brought over a company of German iron experts, who with their families formed thriving colonies. They made the iron shoes for the Governor's horses which originated the thought in his mind for the title, “Knights of the Golden Horse-shoe” when his famous party came across the Blue Ridge to discover the great Shenandoah Valley.

We can imagine these German workman and their descendants carrying the arts of the iron trade across the mountains and into various sections.

In 1766 a mill for grinding flour and meal was built at the Mouth of the Thorn by Ulrich Conrad, Sr., who came from Switzerland in 1753 as a pioneer settler and who was naturalized in 1762. He obtained a number of patents for land, the one situated at the mouth of the Thorn bearing date of 1766. He is found among the list of tithables in 1790 and is listed as one who furnished military supplies for the soldiers of Dunmore's War in 1774 and for the sold-

iers in the Revolutionary War in 1782.

Most likely these were for flour and meal from his mill and ammunition and arms from the foundry. Gunpowder was also made in that community, the saltpeter being obtained from a large cave near by. Being mixed with dirt it was carried out to the river where it was leached, by running water slowly through it much in the same manner our grandmothers ran water through wood ashes to obtain lye for making soap. After the leaching the water was boiled in large, iron kettles, then emptied into troughs hewn or dug out with an adz from the trunks of white pine trees, where it was cooled and crystallized, then pulverized and processed with the proper amount of charcoal and a small amount of water.

As there were neither school nor church buildings in those early days we can imagine the mill as being the community center where the happenings of the times were discussed as the settlers lingered for their grists of meal to be ground.

The mill property descended to Ulrich Conrad, Jr. in 1777 and finally we find General William McCoy, a merchant of Franklin, purchasing the Peninger's and Conrad's Estates, which extended from Franklin to the Mouth of the Thorn. Gen. McCoy was a prosperous farmer, a member of Congress for a quarter of a century and being a friend of President Jackson, held many important trusts. During his lifetime the old mill continued to furnish the staff of life for the settlers far and near. Upon his death it passed into the possession of his nephew, the Honorable William McCoy who was born in 1800 and lived eighty-six years. He served in the State Legislature and was for many years the Ruling Elder of the Franklin Presbyterian church which he helped to organize and support.

The milling industry became so profitable in his lifetime that he decided to replace the old mill, which had given good service for four score years, with a new and modern one of greater grinding capacity, so about 1845 began the construction of the new mill. His contract was made with an expert millwright by the name of James William Byrd, a young man from the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and

such a fine piece of work was perfected that the mill, though the workmen have all passed on, is still giving valuable service. Some modern machinery has been added, but the huge buhrs are still used for grinding corn and other grain, and though it has passed into other hands it is still known far and near as "McCoy's Mill."

Fate had a hand. One marvels, in this machine age, at the huge pillar and sills supporting this old mill, all cut and hewed by hand. In the basement floor the walls are finished with a plaster as hard and firm as rock, and one marvels again at the art of that plasterer who mixed together the lime, sand and hair by hand in a combination which has thus defied the hand of time. Byrd, the millwright, who did beautiful carving cut his name in the wall which when the plaster hardened became a lasting memorial to him.

As a young man he came to superintend this piece of work, expecting to return as soon as it was completed, but Fate willed otherwise! In the home of Honorable William McCoy in Franklin, there was a wedding of note—weddings of those days being great occasions. The day following the wedding the bride and groom and their couples in attendance rode horseback quite a distance to the groom's home, where a great infare banquet was given. The young millwright as a guest at this wedding met Miss Mary Ann Hammer, one of the bride's maids and lost his heart to her. They were married January 4, 1849 and he did not go back to the Shenandoah Valley but built a home, and a mill of his own and lived happily with his family until his untimely death during the war between the North and the South. The McCoy Mill continued to grind all through that war and witnessed many sad scenes during those turbulent days.

Following the battle at McDowell, General Jackson's army pursued the Federals as far down the valley as McCoy's Mill where skirmishing was kept up for several days. While they were firing from behind an old log house which stood across the stream in the meadow west of the mill the Federal forces replied with shells from a Parrott gun, or cannon, several going through and one exploding in the house, causing great destruction. The family had just gone

out and were in their garden at the time.

The old house with its shell holes stood for fifty or more years as a testimonial to the incident. General Jackson made his headquarters at the brick residence of Henry Simmons, seven miles south of the mill, but visited his army in camp there each day and with his escort reconnoitered over the hills roundabout.

The Federal army under General Milroy encamped in and around Franklin and was soon reinforced by General Fremont's army which came up the valley, after which the suspense was very grave. But the battle that was momentarily expected was never fought, for General Jackson received orders to march to the Shenandoah Valley where he shortly after fought his famous campaign.

The mill escaped the torch which was applied to many homes during the war, and was left standing unharmed amid its beautiful, romantic, mountain scenery. The deep hole of water back of the mill has long been known as the best fishing place in Pendleton county. A high cliff of rocks towers in the background on the east and a huge boulder which arches over the west forms a sheltered driveway between a western ledge and the mill. Thorn Spring Park, a few hundred yards up the Thorn which was a part of the mill property, and known as the "old Soldiers' Reunion Ground," was purchased in 1926 by the Franklin Farm Woman's Club and is a delightful place for camping and picnicking.

The early log structure which was used as a residence for the man and his family who tended the mill is still standing—a silent Sentinel of the Past. A newer dwelling now serves the purpose, but when thinking of the generations that have lived and then vanished as others have taken their places, we turn to the old house and mill and muse over the dramas that they might reveal if they were able to speak to us.

MY VISIT WITH GREAT UNCLE BEN

It was on a Sunday afternoon, April 24, 1921, that I drove out to see my Great-Uncle, Benjamin Hammer, to have him tell me about my Grandfather Meadows whom he knew so well, and as we walked along the waters of Trout

Run he showed me the exact spot where he was killed, also where the home was located. He showed me just how he picked up his body and carried it a few steps to the wagon which was in the road. In the wagon were Anderson Ruddle and "Ale," a black boy belonging to Anderson's father, James Ruddle.

He said that the body lay by a very large poplar tree which had been blown over. There we could see the cupped out place where the roots had been and we could see the fertile line where the tree had decayed. The soil was darker and there were flowers growing in the fertile soil. As I viewed them I felt that I was standing on hallowed ground, and while in this worshipful mood I thought of the beautiful lines written by Maurice Thompson:

"And when I fall like some old tree
And subtile change makes mould of me
There let me throw a fertile line
Where purple wild flowers leap and shine."

This fertile line was a fitting emblem of my grandfather's life which was that of an upright, Christian character and which has enriched the lives of those who have heard his story and of those who were spared to tell it.

"His sun went down in the morning,
While all was fair and bright;
But it was not an eclipse of darkness
That hid him from our sight,
For the valley of death was brighter
Than the path of life he trod
And the peace that fell on his spirit
Was the calm, deep peace of God."

Although his body is buried in the George Hammer graveyard and has a marble headstone, we decided that the spot where his life blood was spilled should be marked, and Uncle Ben placed a tall mountain boulder. Then in April, 1936, Trout Run had the worst flood that was ever known and the stone was carried away. It was then that I wrote to the War Department in Washington asking for a marble marker—such as are furnished for all soldiers. In due time it was sent to me and John Boggs, my son, and Forest Hammer, Uncle Ben's son, helped to place it.

As we walked along in the bright April sunshine that afternoon Uncle Ben told me the story of how the home was burned and my grandmother and her three little children left to die, and of how Beckie, the young girl made the trip across Hammer's Mountain—hiding from time to time to escape being captured by soldiers. She finally arrived at the Hammer home and delivered her sad message. Then Uncle Ben, aged sixteen, and his mother started to rescue the little family. When on the mountain they were met by a squad of soldiers who took their horses and forced him to go as their pilot over parts of the mountain road, making him ride some distance in front so that if hidden enemies should fire he would be their target.

When no enemies were encountered he was allowed to go back to his mother, who had stayed by the stuff. They got horses and completed their journey and arriving on the scene of distress took the mother and children in the wagon back across the mountain. Their good neighbor, Jane Ruddle, rode horseback and carried the young baby. The little girls' bonnets, with all other things, had been burned, and as the air was cold he tied his handkerchieves on their heads—something that they never forgot. It was after he took them home that he went to find the body of Meadows—his brother-in-law—as he first told me. Uncle Ben was faithful in the war and in life answered his last Roll Call in 1928 at the great age of 83 years.

"It is something to have ancestors, and one should be glad who can be happy over his ancestors. He should also be solicitous that his ancestors may be happy over him."

Chapter VIII

FAMILY GENEALOGIES

TO BE REMEMBERED

In the following genealogies each descendant has been given a number—(in parenthesis)—for his or her generation in the Hammer lines.

In Book One George Hammer, the pioneer settler on the South Branch three miles north of Franklin, is marked (1). All his children, who are in the second generation, are marked (2); and all of their children, who are in the third generation, are marked (3); and so on down through the lines of descent.

In Book Two, Balsor Hammer, a brother to George, the same plan is carried out. Balsor the pioneer, who settled about eight miles south of Franklin, is marked (1), his children (2), his grandchildren (3), and so on down through the line of descent.

This plan was worked out so that those interested may understand and be able to work out their lines.

May we as a family strive to exalt to its rightful place the keeping of our historical records. While looking into the future with confidence and hope let us not forget our past. May it be remembered that we build day by day the character that will make or mar our happiness.

Pride in our ancestry which endured the hardships of an ocean voyage of weeks in a small sailing vessel, which built log cabins on the borders of the primeval forest, which turned the virgin sod with the clumsy plow, which bled of wounds from the Indians, which dressed in homespun and was ignorant of the luxuries of the present day—such pride is not a dangerous thing to instill into the veins of an American Citizen.

LINEAGE BOOK NUMBER ONE

This book contains the descendants of George Hammer the pioneer (1) and his two sons, George (2) and Henry

(2) who married sisters, Katherine and Phebe Caplinger, and left large posterities. Many of the descendants were interviewed, Bible records examined and visits to all the graves of George and Katherine's children revealed the fact that they all have marble headstones except Elias who is buried in the old Conrad graveyard one mile north of Ruddle Post Office. The grave of George Hammer the pioneer who is buried in the Jake Hammer graveyard four miles north of Franklin, was marked with a marble stone October 19, 1928, by some of his descendants.

FAMILY RECORD OF GEORGE AND KATHERINE HAMMER'S CHILDREN

Susannah born October 18, 1807, died November 26, 1869 (wife of Gabriel Kile) is buried at the Lutheran Church at Upper Tract, Elizabeth born August 4, 1809, died June 27, 1852 (wife of James Dyer Ruddle) is buried in the Jake Hammer graveyard with her parents, George and Katherine Hammer, Phebe, born October 8, 1811, died September 13, 1884 (wife of Michael Lough), buried in the graveyard near their home, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Olin Hammer, Katherine, born May 6, 1814, died June 3, 1894 (wife, first of Sampson Conrad and second of Joel Siple), buried in the Conrad graveyard on the South Fork George Hammer the third, born August 4, 1816, died June 6, 1886, buried in the George Hammer graveyard which was located on his farm near where he lived, Abel Hammer died in 1825 at the age of seven years and is buried in the Jake Hammer graveyard, Jacob Hammer, born February 21, 1821, died February 4, 1898, buried in the Jake Hammer graveyard, Mary Ann Hammer born April 2, 1823, died March 11, 1899 (wife of James William Byrd) buried in the Byrd graveyard three miles north of Franklin.

Elias (nicknamed "Ale") married Delilah, a daughter of Ulrich and Sarah Currance Conrad.

COPY OF THEIR FAMILY RECORD.

Elias Hammer and Delilah Conrad were married April 7, 1831. He was born June 3, 1805, and died May 23, 1869. She was born Sept. 1, 1813, and died August 30, 1904.

THEIR CHILDREN, with dates of births and deaths:

Sarah, Dec. 15, 1831—August 5, 1882.

Deniza, June 28, 1833—Sept. 19, 1911.

Laban, Dec. 12, 1834—Dec. 21, 1836.
Mahala J., March 23, 1836—Feb. 25, 1907.
Phebe, Oct. 24, 1837—Sept. 17, 1917.
John A., Jan. 10, 1840—July 3, 1840.
Infant son born and died in July 1841.
George W., June 28, 1842, Killed in war Oct. 20, 1861,
Member of Co. E., 25 Va. Regiment.
May A., March 5, 1844—Dec. 25, 1879.
Elias C., Nov. 25, 1845—Aug. 2, 1929
Isaac Taylor, Sept. 13, 1847—July 17, 1907.
Virginia F., April 28, 1849—April 12, 1923.
William, April 1, 1851—Sept. 26, 1861.
Abel M., Nov. 13, 1852—Oct. 7, 1918.
Lavina S., April 16, 1855—Nov. 19, 1862.
Emily D., Nov. 11, 1857—Nov. 21, 1862

PLACES OF BURIAL

Elias, Sr., Laban, Mahala, John A., Infant son, George W., Mary A., William, Lavina S., and Emily D. are all buried in the Conrad graveyard on the east side of the South Branch, a mile north of Ruddle Post Office. There are 202 graves in this old graveyard.

Delilah, Deniza, Elias, Jr., Isaac Taylor, Virginia F. and Abel M. are buried in the cemetery at the Ruddle church.

Sarah is buried at Mt. Hope Lutheran church at Upper Tract and Phebe is buried at the Howard Dahmer place near Kline.

Record of Elias and Delilah's eight children that lived to marry and have descendants.

Sarah (4) was the first wife of Reuben D. Dahmer (a son of Martin Dahmer) and they had six children:

Edward (5) moved to Ohio.

Isaac Dahmer (5) 1861-1943, married Emma, a daughter of Stephen and Mary (Smucher) Thacker and had five children: Mrs. Perry Mallow, Mrs. Pearl Kesner, Mrs. Curtis Lough, Mrs. Fred Dahmer and Charles S. Dahmer. Isaac and Emma celebrated their Golden Wedding, January 11, 1938.

Phebe Dahmer (5) married Isaac Lough, a son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Mallow) Lough and their children

are: Arthur, Ernest, Mrs. Nona Hedrick and Mrs. Nina Hartman.

Susan Dahmer (5) married I. N. Ruddle, son of Mountain John Ruddle, their eleven children were: Claude, Whitney, I. Saylor, Reta, Roy, Dick, John P., Katherine, Dee, Ralph and Anna. Hendron Dahmer (5) married Caddie Blewitt and they have a daughter named Annie Pauline who married Stephen Swihart and has three children: Mary Catherine, Charles and William Craig (all in 7th).

Hammer Dahmer (5), twin to Hendron, married Kate S. Dahmer and they had three children: Mrs. Nellie J. Norton, Mrs. Alice Fleichter and Ira, who died early.

These two Dahmer families lived at Harpster, Ohio.

Deniza Hammer (4) married Charles J. Blewitt, a son of Samuel who was a tailor. They had six children: George R., Phebe and Laura D. all died single, Charles W., a bachelor, lives at Ruddle, Arbelia married O. C. Cunningham and lives at Upper Tract. Their children all in the 6th generation are: Mrs. Eunice Mathany, Agnes, William, Harry and Howard.

Delilah Catherine ("Caddie") Married Hendron Dahmer, her first cousin—(see preceeding record.)

Mahala J. (4) married in 1865 to Henry, a son of John and Nancy Roberson. They had three children: Isaac, died in early manhood, Della, the second wife of Isaac Hedrick leaves no issue. Mack Roberson (5) married Eva Hedrick the daughter of Isaac Hedrick by his first wife: children are, Henry, Retha, Roy, Eula, Alma, Edwin and Alden. Phebe (4) married Miles Dahmer and had five children: Charles E. (5) who married Cordelia Mouse and had five children: Stanley, Virgil, Gerald, Irene and Evelyn. Howard (5), who married Ora Hammer had six children. (See this issue in the George W. Hammer record.)

Andrew S. Dahmer (5) married Helen Kiser. Their children are: Mary Howard, Nora, Janie and Clemont.

Kate S. Dahmer (5) married Hammer Dahmer (See former record).

Effie Dahmer (5) single.

Elias C. Hammer (4) was a soldier in Company F. 62 Virginia Regiment of the Civil War. By his first wife, Mat-

tie Hedrick, he had three children: Fannie (5) born January 15, 1872 and died December 29, 1948. She was married April 16, 1890 to Jerry Mallow who died in 1933. They had three children: Mrs. Luna Judy, Mrs. Martha Judy (wife of Arthur) and Mrs. Ethel Lough.

Ada (5) married Oliver Teter and lives at Reeds Creek.

Ursula (5) born April 7, 1878 married Wilbur Lough.

Elias Hammer's second wife was Mollie Bowers and they were the parents of six children: Harry (5), Jerome (5) who married Louella Bolton. They have two daughters, Mary Virginia and Mildred Isabel, and live at Alaska, West Virginia. William (5) was accidentally killed while hunting, Mrs. Ella Craig (5), Mrs. Hattie Harold (5) and John Hammer (5) who was twice married, first wife was Kate Whitecotton and they had one child, Ruth (wife of Raymon Smith). His second white is Mattie Whitecotton, a niece of his first wife, and they have four children: Mrs. Mary Kuykendall, Macie, Rubie and Bonnie Hammer. Isaac Taylor Hammer (4) married Urbanna Frances, daughter of Laban and Rachel Conrad, and had the following children: Mollie (5) married William B. Bowers and their ten children are: Mabel, Raymond, Russell, Paul, Fannie, Lester, Hubert, Jessie Marie, Virginia and Edwin Robert. William B. Bowers died April 27, 1947 and is buried at Falls Church in Virginia.

Bessie Hammer (5) born April 10, 1881 married Ashby Bowers, nephew of W. B., and they have one son, Stanley Bowers (6), soldier in the Second World War—married Guelta Jenkins, daughter of Willis and Edna Jenkins.

Curtis F. Hammer (5) married Bessie, daughter of John and Izerna (Dove) Harman, and they have three children: Ralph, married Mary M. Lible, Ruth married Elihu Frick and Nell married Warren Giauque.

Fred Hammer (5) married Mollie, daughter of James W. and Katherine Kee and they have one son, Lacy, who married Mollie McWilliams and lives at Greenfield, Ohio, no issue. Fred died January 31, 1948.

Walter P. Hammer (5) graduated in 1916 from Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery. Married Etta M.

Duff of Butler county, Pa., and their children are: Mildred Gail who married E. Parker, and Walter Dorland who married Lois Allen, Roanoke, Virginia.

Lester Hammer (5) born January 10, 1897 lives at Akron, Ohio. Married Clara St. John. No issue.

Virginia F. Hammer (4) married John M. Ruddle a son of James D. and Elizabeth (Hammer) Ruddle and had ten children. Minnie (5) married Berkley Smith. She died in 1942 at the age of 74 years. They lived near Ruddle and had four children. Ola (6) married Jim Harold and had four children: Veston, died in 1943 at the age of 34, a soldier at Camp Pickett, in the Second World War. His wife was Ruth Harper, no issue. Glona May married Earl Berror, Macie married Silas Compton and has one child, Nancy Joe Compton. Shyrl Q. married Grace, a daughter of Arthur and Nona Lough. They live at Upper Tract. Luna (6) married Ott F. Ruddle, a son of H. Clay and Susan Ruddle, and has three children: Ethel (7) married Lacy E. Smith and has three children: Shyrl, Gail and Carroll. Cleda (7) Brooke (7).

Arnold Smith (6) married Nettie Warner who died March 9, 1937 leaving six small children: Bonnie, Bettie Joe, Norma Jean, Eldon and Sheldon.

Osce Smith (6) married Minnie Hedrick and has two children, Merlee (7) married Cletus Bowers and Kathleen (7).

Almeda Ruddle (5) born January 29, 1872 married W. P. Simmons and had one child (Zola (6) who married Charley Will Judy and has two children, Nida Virginia and John William.

Calvin D. Ruddle (5) born 1870, died 1942 married Ruth a daughter of George W. and Hannah Kate Hammer and had four sons, Ira, Alvin M., Ralph and Virgil Lee who was a soldier in the second World War.

Lelia G. Ruddle (5) born 1875, died 1919, married Oliver Swadley and lived at Piedmont, West Va. They had two sons, Raymond and Arthur. She was buried at the Ruddle church. Phebe Ruddle (5) born 1880 died 1945 is buried with her husband, Robert T. Swadley at Westernport, Md. No issue.

Bruce Ruddle (5) died a bachelor, April 25, 1899 aged twenty one years.

J. Floyd Ruddle (5) died a bachelor, July 13, 1939, aged fifty-seven years.

J. Preston Ruddle (5) born October 3, 1885, died February 24, 1949. He married Clara, a daughter of H. Clay Ruddel, and had four children: Pauline, wife of John Harman, Maxine, wife of Norman Dunkle, Reed and Richard. Aude B. Ruddle (5) married Jessie, a daughter of Tom and Cora Smith Painter. They live at Greenfield, Ohio and had a family. Wilson, (6) deceased, left two children. Walter (6), Thelma (6), Irene (6) and Iva Lee (6). Other names I did not get.

Ernest Ruddle, born 1891, a bachelor who has unusual musical talent.

Abel M. Hammer (4) married Lavina, a daughter of Daniel and Mary Hedrick and had four children, two of which died in early childhood.

Jessie (5) married Ona D. Ruddle and has three children: Wilda (6) married John A. Kimble and lives at Upper Tract, Hansel (6) married Hazel Mitchell and Nola (6) is single.

Olin R. Hammer (5) married Myrtle, a daughter of Jared and Texie (Hammer) Dickenson, and they have one child, Reed (6) born May 15, 1933. Their daughter, Theda Virginia, died January 28, 1937 at the age of sixteen years.

Susanna Hammer (3) married Abraham Kile as his second wife. She was born in 1802 and died in 1854. His first wife was Mary Swadley. Susanna, his second wife was the eldest daughter of George and Catherine Caplinger Hammer. Abraham and Susanna are buried at Mt. Hope Lutheran church—on the location of the "Old Dutch Church" near Upper Tract and not far from where they lived.

They had four children to die at one time of diphtheria, after which they had three sons born: Abel (4), George Washington (4), and John (4).

Abel married Delilah Smith and died without issue.

John married Sarah Payne the only daughter of George and Jane Payne who died when she was an infant and she

was reared by her Grandmother Sarah (Currence) Conrad who lived in the pioneer, stone house near what is now Ruddle. John and Jane were the parents of eight children: William, Effie, Daisy, Jackson, Fletcher, Fannie, John, Jr. and Iska Susan Kile (All in the 5th Hammer generation).

George W. Kile (4) married Nancy, a daughter of Isaac Graham. They were married August 18, 1853 by Rev. George Smucher and were the parents of seven sons and one daughter: Isaac W., James Hervey, Abraham N. known as "Ham," William W., Jacob Hammer, Ulisses Grant, Andrew Jackson and Mary S. (All in the 5th generation).

Isaac W. (5) married Hannah Kimble and they were the parents of eight children: Harvey (6) married Belle Johnson and lived on the North Fork, south of Petersburg and had six children. After Harvey's death she married ——— Sites. Glenn C. Kile (7) was Sec-ty-Tr. of the Kile Family Association.

Samuel Kile (6) married Annie, a daughter of Henry and Hannah Hedrick, Susie Kile (6) married William F. Stump and lives at Landis, Phebe Kile (6) married Vincent Stump and lives at Landis, Rebecca Kile (6) married Auston Mowery.

Gilmer Kile (6) deceased, Charley Kile (6) a bachelor lives at Franklin. David O. Kile (6) died February 14, 1948. aged 46 years. His first wife, Luna Whetzel died in 1931 then he married Nellie Whetzel in 1943. Children by the first marriage: Herman Lee, Bettie Joe, Mary Howard married Albert R. Cave, Jr. of Broadway, Va., and Arnold who married Faye D. See of Timberville, Va. They live at Timberville. Their son named Ervin David (8) was born August 31, 1948.

Jacob Hammer Kile (5) married Sallie, a daughter of Alfred and Phebe (Shirk) Kimble and had eight children. She died June 1, 1946 aged 73 years and he died Feb. 10, 1943. Their children in the 6th Hammer generation are: Ona (md. ——— Jenkins), Warnie (md. Vista Miller), deceased. Hobert D., Loy T., Iva (Md. Arthur Miller), Vergie (Md. Fred Alt), Bessie married Pent Rexrode, and Eston who married Edith ——— and had ten children all in the 7th generation: Jacob H. killed in the Second World

War, Harlan, Keith, Bunis, Reginald, Mildred, Maxine. Shirley, Mrs. Evelyn Kesner of Dayton, Va., and Mrs. Kathleen Simmons of Brandywine.

Ulysses Grant Kile (5) married Mary E. a daughter of Isaac and Jemima (Borrow) Mallow and had eight children, all in the 6th generation: Will (6) married Ollie a daughter of William Hinkle near Kline and had three children: Jessie, when eleven years old was drowned in the river near Ruddle, Frank, and Myrtle who married Russell Mitchell. Will's second wife is Dessie, daughter of Noah Kesner and their five children: Vernon, Robert, Bettie, Ruth and Walter G. who was killed in the Second World War.

Arthur Kile (6) married Cleda, a daughter of Samuel J. and Edna (Thacker) Mallow and lives at the Old Smucher Homestead near Kline. Their eight children are Dorothy, Richard, Stanley, Kathleen, Keith, Arland, Eleanor and Karel.

Rev. John Kile (6) married Zella a daughter of Wesley Kimble and has three children, Thurman, Vivian and Ray.

Lee Kile (6) died single and his Uncle Andrew Kile (5) died single in Rockingham County.

Ervin G. Kile (6) married Mary, a daughter of John-Add and Sarah Jane Dahmer Smith, live at Upper Tract and have three children: John Allen, Mary Eva and Nancy Jane.

Kennie Kile (6) is single, Clarence Kile (6) lives at Gaithersburg, Md.

Estie Kile (6) married Henry Kimble and lives at Franklin, and they have three sons and one daughter, Bessie who married Luther Dahmer a son of Preston Dahmer and lives at Deer Run.

Melvin married Bertha Alder and lives at Linville, Va. They have two children, Merlyn and Karen.

Loy married Annie a daughter of Ernest and Nellie Lough.

Dolan is single and lives with his parents in Franklin.

Mary S. Kile (5) married John W. Kimble son of Wesley Kimble and lives near Franklin. Their three children are: Lee who married Mildred Pyles and lives in Keyser, Clinton who married Marguerite Dice a daughter of Hin-

kle and Laura, Simmons Dice and their six children are: Raymond, Phyllis, Bettie, Kittie, Reed and Nancy all in the 7th Hammer genealogy.

Russell Kimble (6) married Dora Spitzer and lives at Brushy Run and their children are, Mary, Clemmett, John, Archie and Fannie Catherine.

James Hervey Kile (5) married Hannah Snider. They lived in Ohio and had eleven children. He died in January 1944, in his 88th year. He attended the Kile family Reunion when he was eighty-six at the old Judy Church and was awarded the prize for being the oldest Kile present and for having traveled the greatest number of miles which is four hundred, from West Jefferson, Ohio, to Judy Church.

His Children:

Nancy Catherine (6) died in 1933 aged about 50.

William (6) died in 1936. His wife was Marie Burkhardt and they were the parents of three children, Johnnie, Ernest and Victor.

John Kile (6) deceased, Mary Kile (6) married Charles Shoemaker and had nine children: Paul, James, Madeline, Dick, Guy, Gene, Jack and Cecil, all in the 7th generation.

Lena (6) married Horace Shepherd and has two children—Hilda and Norma.

Adeline (6) married Richard Chrisman and has three children—Robert, William and Roger.

Lula (6) married Paul Clippinger and has three children, Robert and Catherine—twins, and Donald.

Frances (6) married George Jennings and had two children—Jean and William.

James Cecil (6) married Martha Dove and has eight children: James, Annette, Dale and Dorn (twins), Lynn, Kenneth, John, and Sara. This family lives at West Jefferson, Ohio (a few miles west of Columbus). James Cecil is a physician at West Jefferson, Ohio, and his wife gave me this record while at the Kile Reunion August 9, 1942.

Abraham N. Kile—known as "Ham" (5) died in February 1942. He married Isabelle Kimble and lived on the North Fork, near Petersburg. His second marriage was to Ida Day. He was the Family Historian.

William W. Kile (5) moved to Ohio, then to Michigan and we do not have any record of him.

Elizabeth Hammer (3) married James Dyer Ruddle and they were the parents of eight sons and one daughter. After her death in 1852 he married the second time to Jane Payne and they had six children, (Charley, Harness, Frank (accidentally shot while hunting Dec. 24, 1894), Mrs. Phebe Conrad, Mrs. Maggie Hartman and Mrs. Hannah Simmons).

Jane filled the place of a real mother to the first family as well as to her own. James Dyer Ruddle, who died Jan. 1, 1895 was a son of Cornelius, born 1780, died 1876, and his wife Hannah (Dyer) a daughter of James Dyer who escaped from the Indian Massacre of Fort Seybert in 1758.

James D. Ruddle, with his son Frank and his father Cornelius are buried on the high hill overlooking the early Ruddle home in the Buffalo hills.

Descendants of Elizabeth Hammer (3) and James Dyer Ruddle.

William G. Ruddle (4) 1834-1916 a Sergt. in Co. F. Va. Infantry in the Civil War, married Samantha Hartman and they were the parents of nine children, all in the 5th generation of Hammer descendants in Pendleton County. Carrie (5) died Feb. 28, 1935 married W. Pent Ruddle, a son of "Mountain John" Ruddle, and they had one child, Roma born Aug. 31, 1904 and married Aug. 31, 1924 to George Osceola Hammer son of Lloyd and Blanche Byrd Hammer. Their eight children are listed in the Mary Ann Hammer Byrd Family.

Bertha (5) married Walter P. Lough and they have one son, Delmar Lough, a soldier.

Elizabeth (5) died single.

Taylor (5) married Bessie Hinkle a daughter of David and Alice (Hiner) Hinkle and had five children—Inez (6) married Ray Hartman, son of Isaac Hartman. They live in Franklin and have two children Wm. Ray and Linda Sue. Hazel (6) married George Dyer, son of William M. and Susan (Lough) Dyer and they have two children, David and Roger Dyer (7).

Mabel (6) married Rex Craig of Richmond, Va., and

has one child Lewis Craig (7). Hinkle Ruddle (6) married Pauline Judy and has two children (7).

Raleigh Ruddle (6) single.

Cora Alice Ruddle (5) 1870-1942 died single.

Iva Ruddle (5) married Robert Martin a son of Adam and Susan Martin. Susie Ruddle (5) married E. Clinton Dahmer a son of Pinckney and Virginia (Burgoyne) Dahmer and they have three children. Myrtle (6) married Elmer May and has two children. Masel (6) and Morris (6) single. Kitty Ruddle (5) married ——— Coffee and lives in Washington, D. C.

Scott Ruddle (5) 1885-1948 married Maude Siple a daughter of Josiah and Rachael Siple and they had one son Omer Ruddle (6) and a grand daughter Linda Ann Ruddle (7).

Edmund Dyer Ruddle (4) 1835-1894 was married in 1875 to Dolly Puffenbarger and they had seven children.

Delia (5) married three times. Had children only by the second marriage to Amos Roby. Her two sons are Ona and Raymond Roby (6).

Annie Ruddle (5) died in young womanhood.

Janie Ruddle (5) married Fred B. Dawson of Westernport, Maryland and they had five children. He died Oct. 13, 1943 from an accident in a mine.

Pvt. Leon Dawson (6) soldier in World War II, William Dawson (6). Mrs. William Martin of Newport News, Va. (6) Mrs. William Ford (6) and Mrs. Lloyd Lewis of Delaware (6). There were eight grand children at the time of Fred B. Dawson's death.

Lee Ruddle (5) died Jan. 29, 1947 without issue.

Ebert (5), Charles A. (5) and William M. (5).

James H. Ruddle (4) married in 1867 to Caroline Homan and they moved to Farmer City, Kansas in 1882. He died in 1921, aged 78. She died in 1910. Their eight children—Mary Elizabeth married Jack Grundish, Lucile married Glen Skinner, Fannie, Earl, Oscar, Otis, Walter and Dick all in the 5th line of Hammer Genealogy in Pendleton County. They do not reply to letters of inquiry.

Isaac C. Ruddle (4) married Mary-Margaret a daugh-

ter of James and Catherine (Halterman) Skidmore and lived in Franklin.

Harry (5) married Kate, daughter of Isaac S. and Susan Funk Pennybacker and had one child Bernice (6) wife of Zircle Hisey of Elkton, Va., and they have one child, Kitty Hisey (7).

Cam Ruddle (5) died single.

Philip Ruddle (5) married Stella, daughter of Garnet and Malinda (Helmick) Warner and they have two children: Mary (6) wife of Dick Murphy and Orland (6) wife of Alden H. Dorsey and they have a son John Philip, born January, 1948, (7). Orland is a triplet and had a brother and a sister born and died Feb. 8, 1919.

Mattie Ruddle (5) died Nov. 16, 1919, single.

Robert Ruddle (5) married Ann Patch. No issue. One adopted son named "Bobbie."

Early Ruddle (5) married Ollie, daughter of J. Frank and Lavina (Davis) Carter and they have five children Carter (6) married Evelyn Griffeth in 1928 and has three children, Robert Early (7) Carter Lee (7) John David (7) Laurene (6) married Stephen Reterer and has one child, Bettie Reterer (7).

Randolph Ruddle (6) bachelor.

Mason Ruddle (6) married Marie Dolly daughter of Wilbur and Cornelia Dolly and they have a daughter named Dolly Anna.

Jean Ruddle (6) married Arvid Simmons and they have a daughter named Jean Ann.

For the family of John M. and Virginia Ruddle, Hammer descendants, see the Elias Hammer group.

Abel M. Ruddle (4) a soldier in Co. F 62nd Va. Regiment in the Civil War and a prisoner at Camp Chase, a noted Federal Prison in that War, died Jan. 13, 1892 and is buried in the Jake Hammer Grave Yard near his mother Elizabeth Hammer Ruddle.

He married Mary who died Dec. 28, 1939 in her 81 year (a daughter of John and Mary (Hinkle) Dahmer). Abel and Mary were the parents of six children: George Loss (5) married Delia a daughter of David and Christina C. ("Kate") Hedrick and had four children: Paul (6)

married Thelma Crigler, Billie (6) married Rachel Kiser, Mildred (6) Mary (6) single. Emory Ruddle (5) bachelor.

Byrd Ruddle (5) married Vesta, a daughter of Charles P. Anderson. She died Nov. 13, 1943 in her 42 year, at their home at Milam, West Virginia, and left six children: Mabel, Annie Catherine, William, Weldon, Arlie, and Kathleen all in (6).

Mertie Ruddle (5) married Sam Whitecotton and had four children: James H. (6) died July 15, 1937 in his 35 year and left a daughter (7) Arnold (6) lives at Joliet, Ill., and came home for the funeral of his brother, James H. Whitecotton.

Nellie (6) married Robert Propst, son of Daniel and Mattie Propst. Beulah (6) married William Tingler and lives at Osceola, West Virginia.

Linnie Ruddle (5) married Claude Ruddle. No issue. They have an adopted son, Richard Ruddle.

Mollie Ruddle (5) married Wilson Lambert and had two daughters—Treva (6) a trained nurse married John J. Wermouth of Quantico, Va. He served in the Navy in the second World War.

Pauline (6) married Harlan Kile (son of Eston Kile) and they have one child named Bobbie Kile.

After the death of Wilson Lambert Mollie married the second time to Jasper H. Judy. They live at Upper Tract and have a daughter, Jean Judy (6) who graduated in Franklin High School May 18, 1945.

Anderson N. Ruddle (4) died a bachelor at advanced age.

H. Clay Ruddle (4), the youngest child of Elizabeth (Hammer) and James D. Ruddle, married Mary Susan a daughter of Sam-Henry and Hannah (Lough) Hedrick and had six children: Lura Catherine (5) born Sept. 4, 1883 was married Oct. 10, 1906 to Don Byrd a son of John W. and Phebe M. Byrd, and they have two sons. Masel R. Byrd (6) Soldier in the Second World War. Married Grace Conrad. Carl Byrd (6) married Bernice E. Stites, daughter of Eva Priest Stites and the late Charles Stites. Their two children are John William Byrd (7) born 1942 and named for his great grandfather, John W. Byrd. Beverly

Stites Byrd (7) born March 21, 1938.

Maude D. Ruddle (5) born Dec. 25, 1884, died June 20, 1948, single, she lived with her sister Clara Ruddle near Ruddle Church.

Clara E. Ruddle (5) married her first cousin J. Preston Ruddle and has four children (See the John M. Ruddle record).

Ona Dyer Ruddle (5) married Jessie a daughter of Abel and Lavina (Hedrick) Hammer (See Family of Abel and Lavina).

Otto Franklin Ruddle (5) married Luna Smith a daughter of Berkley and Minnie Ruddle Smith. (See the John M. and Virginia Ruddle record).

Otho Clay Ruddle (5) born Sept. 3, 1892 and died Oct. 6, 1892. The mother died and Mrs. Phebe M. Byrd kept the infant as long as it survived. The mother died of blood poison and having nursed the child the poison was transferred to his system which caused his death.

Mary C. Ruddle, (4) the only daughter of James and Elizabeth, married in 1873 to Franklin Dyer Homan 1851-1920, a son of John R. and Polly Dyer Homan of Broadway, Va. Mary died Aug. 8, 1905 and they are buried in the cemetery at Ruddle Church. They were the parents of eight children: Walter Scott Homan (5) who died July 18, 1898 of typhoid fever was married to Luna H. Byrd May 13, 1894, a daughter of Clay O. and Fannie (Harper) Byrd. They had two sons, Virgil Ray Homan (6) born May 20, 1895 and Walter Scott Jr., born August 13, 1897 and died of flu Oct. 9, 1918 while in training at Camp Mead in the First World War.

(For the family of Virgil see the Mary Ann Byrd Lineage.)

John Carr Homan (5) 1874-1938 was married in 1894 to Mary Olive, daughter of John and Katherine (Dice) Harman and they were the parents of four children: J. Cecil Homan (6) born 1895 and married 1926 to Ruth Miller at Valla Vista, California and they had seven children:

John Cecil, Jr., Marvin Morris, Mabel Grace, Mary Olive, Verona Ruth, Wilbur Lee, and Lorena, all in the (7)

generation of the Hammer lineage in Pendleton County, West Virginia.

Nellie May Homan (6) born 1898 married first, to _____ Scales and had three children: Charles (7) born 1917 at Lockney, Texas, who married and has a child, Donna Lou Scales, born 1941 at Hemet, California.

Kibby Wayne Scales (7) born 1920 at Olton, Texas. Ruby Irene Scales (7) born 1922 at Olton, Texas. Nellie's second husband was John L. Evans.

Theodore Marvin Homan (6) born 1901, married in 1930 to Lorena Oglevy and they have a daughter, Bettie Lou Homan, born 1932.

Inez M. Homan, born 1904 (6) married 1921 to Otho C. Spence and they have a son, Otho C. Spence, Jr., born 1925. He was inducted into the Second World War on his eighteenth birthday, April 8, 1943 and was a member of the Coast Guards. Howard Kerr Homan (5) died October 1924 in Parkersburg, West Virginia. His wife was Lou Kettermann, a daughter of Esau Kettermann who lived on Timber Ridge, in Pendleton county. Howard and Lou's four children were Arden who died early, Leota, who married _____ Warner, Freddie and Terrance (a mute).

William H. Homan (5) died 1944 at the age of sixty-six years. He married Mary, the only daughter of Solomon and Emily (Shultz) Cunningham, and their children are: Helen (6) who married Joe Wine a son of Noah and Mattie (Click) Wine and they have two children, Louise and Joseph F. Wine, Jr.

Emma Catherine (6) was married September 10, 1932 to Oren M. Knott, a son of A. C. and Annie (McKee) Knott. Catherine is a nurse, having graduated May 17, 1932 from the Rockingham Memorial Hospital Training School for nurses. Her children are Robert Eugene Knott, born in 1935 and Caroline Homan Knott born in 1939.

Mary Virginia Homan (6) was married May 5, 1933 to Harry B. Dice, the youngest son of M. C. and Daisy (Tutwiler) Dice of Burketown, Virginia. They have a son, Harry B. Dice, Jr., (7) born September 6, 1934. William H. Homan, Jr. born 1916 married Esther H. Thomas and

has three children: William H. the third, Gary L., and Allen Dalen.

Lilian Homan (6) was married May 2, 1938 to Orville Wise a son of Roscoe and Mittie (Glick) Wise, and they have two children, Orville, Jr., born 1940 and Emily Homan Wise, born in 1948.

Bernham Homan married Betsy Walker of Richmond, Virginia. No issue.

Mary Catherine ("Kate") Homan (5) died October 29, 1929 aged forty eight years, at her home in Olton, Texas of blood poison which came from a small cut on her finger. She married Ira Hammer a son of George W. and Hannah Kate (Rymer) Hammer. February 9, 1908 they left Pendleton County, West Virginia and migrated to Illinois, and later to Olton, Texas where they both died and are buried. Ira died April 16, 1930. They were survived by four children: Ethel (6), born April 10, 1904 in Pendleton county, married in Texas to O. C. White and they have a son, Van Dale White, born August 7, 1929 at Olton, Texas.

Paul Hammer (6) born February 10, 1907 in Pendleton county married in Texas and he and Opal have three children: Bettie Lou, born 1927, graduated in the Olton High School, May 12, 1944, and later married A. J. Givens, and they have a son named John Anthony Givens.

Mary Jean Hammer, born 1929 and Don Paul Hammer born 1939.

Beulah Hammer (6) born 1911 was married in 1931 to Lewis B. Randolph and they have two children, Rex Lynn, born August 24, 1937 and Lou Anna, born October 10, 1938.

Eula Mae Hammer (6) born August 5, 1913, graduated from the Olton High School in 1930 in Texas, and August 7, 1937 she was married to Ernest Crosswhite at Clovis, New Mexico. He was born at Lackney, Texas.

Bettie Homan (5) born January 27, 1884 at Ruddle, West Virginia and died in 1936 at Bloomington, Illinois. She was married in 1908 to John Sigler, Jr., who died February 29, 1932 at Bloomington, Ill. They were the parents of four children, Herbert, William, and Richard Sigler and Mrs. Virginia (Sigler) Roark who has a daughter born in

1937. Friends have written me that Virginia looks very much like her mother, who was a very beautiful girl. Fannie Homan (5) married Aude Kiser, a son of William C. and Mary (Siple) Kiser. They live near Dale Enterprise, Virginia, and have three children: Evelyn (6) a graduate nurse married Russell Conner and has three children, Dorothy (6) married Arnold Smith and Ola Marie (6) married on June 25, 1948 to John Edwin Packard of Palm Beach, Florida.

Carrie Homan (5) born September 16, 1890 at Ruddle, West Virginia and died December 21, 1943 and is buried in Gilmore Cemetery near LeRoy, Illinois. She was married August 24, 1910 to Grover C. Reese of LeRoy, Ill. He died of pneumonia December 4, 1930 aged 43 years. They were the parents of three children, Clarence, Francis and Delmar. Later, she married S. C. VanHorn and they lived at Heyworth, Ill. He died in 1948.

Ola Homan (5) born November 25, 1893 at Ruddle, West Virginia, was married April 8, 1924 to George W. Cox of Bloomington, Ill. They live at LeRoy, Ill. As they were never blessed with children of their own they adopted two nice girls who have been the same as their own children.

Phebe Hammer (3) married Michael Lough, who was born Jan. 27, 1809 and died May 6, 1852 a son of John and Sarah (Harpole) Lough. Phebe and Michael had eight children: Three of which died in childhood were George H., Josephine, and Sarah Catherine. The following are the ones who lived to marry.

Abel M. (4) born 1833 and married in 1854 to Ursula Thompson a daughter of Willis and Ruhama Thompson.

John William (4) born 1835 married Nelia Huffman a school teacher.

Jacob H. (4) born 1838, married in 1867 to Carrie J. Dice a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Dice and they had four children: William L. (5) 1868-1918 who married Grace a daughter of Calvin L. Caplinger, and left one child Harlie B. Lough (6). Grace was killed by a train in 1945.

Fannie Lough (5) died in young womanhood, Phebe (5) married Charles Boggs of Clay Co., W. Va. They had no children. After her early death he married Iscie Williams

and had two daughters.

Laura ("Lollie") Lough (5) married Fred Boggs of Clay county and they had four children: Cecil, Tressie, Carrie and Elizabeth all (6). Tressie married Noah Rexrode and had four children: Marvin, Norman (in the Navy in Second World War), Frederick in the Army in Second World War, and Mary Belle all (7).

Carrie Boggs (6) married Hugh Boggs and lives in Spencer, W. Va. After Lollie's death Fred was twice married, but had no issue.

Jacob Lough's second marriage was to Susan Dice a sister to his first wife and by this marriage he had one son, Alonzo Dice Lough (5) born 1880, married Ella Cowger. No. issue.

Mary J. Lough 1840-1906 (4) married William Siple who died in 1861. They had a son that died in 1863 at two years of age. November 7, 1867 she married Isaac D. Hammer a son of Jacob and Timna Conrad Hammer, and they had one child, Texie V. Hammer (5) born July 18, 1871. Dec. 20, 1893 she was married to Jared A. Dickenson who died March 13, 1911 in his 39th year. He was a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Hiner) Dickenson. Texie and Jared had two children: Roy (5) married Mabel Lough a daughter of W. Streit and Maude (Blizzard) Lough and had two children, Roy, Jr., (6) and Doris V. (6).

Myrtle Dickenson (5) married Olin R. Hammer and lives at the old Lough Homestead, and they have one child, Reed (6) born May 15, 1933. Their daughter Theda Va. died Jan. 28, 1937 at the age of sixteen years. Texie's second marriage was in 1919 to W. Streit Lough a son of George Amos and Mary E. (Hiser) Lough, no issue. Streit died April 30, 1937 at the age of 66 years and Texie lives with her daughter at the old Lough home place and has the old German Bible that belonged to Rev. Henry Dickenson, printed in 1683. He was born August 19, 1806 and died in 1895 in his ninetieth year. He was a minister for more than fifty years and married more couples in Pendleton Co. than any other minister. Texie also has the Bible that belonged to her great grandfather, George Hammer (2) who was born Feb. 10, 1776.

Anderson Newman ("Dock") Lough (4) 1847-1922 was married in 1868 to Amanda Cornelia Beall a daughter of Henderson and Mary J. (Farnsworth) Beall and they were the parents of five children:

Phebe Jane Lough (5) 1869-1897 married Henry Waggy of Sutton, W. Va., and they had four children: William Waggy (6) had five children: Robert (7) William Jr., (7), James (7) Gene and Geraldine (7).

Charles Waggy (6), Susan (6) married Baker. No issue, Jane (6) married John Murray and has three sons (one in West Point). Her mother died when she was born and she was named for her.

Blanche Lough (5) born 1872 and was married in 1897 to Brantie C. Eakle of Clay, W. Va., and they have three children: Earl (6) is married and has three children—Burk, Allen and Dawn, all (7). Wanita Eakle (6) married Mark King, of Clay, W. Va., and has two children, Ann Sherron (7) and Mitchell Hold (7).

Dana Cletus Eakle, married 1932 to Edna Mae Chafin of Logan. No issue. He married the second time and has a child named D. C. Eakle.

Willis Hank Lough (5) born 1876 and married Jan. 3, 1912 to Maude Haskins and they have a son, Rollin Lough (6).

Timna Gay Lough (5) born July 16, 1886 was married in 1909 to Charley Bills of Gassaway, W. Va., and they had four children: Oran Lough Bills, 1910-1936 member of Company G. 150 West Va. Infantry. Was married and left one child named Carolyn Sue Bills (7) who lives with her grandmother Timna Gay Bills. Timna Gay visited here and in Virginia August 31, 1946.

Catherine Bills (6) married Woodrow Parsons and they have a child named Low-Carroll Parsons, born November 10, 1932.

Alena Bills (6) married Dana Engle of Gassaway and has a child (7).

Donald Bills (6) single, died in May 1943.

Ursula Lough (5) born Dec. 1, 1889, married Dec. 4, 1906, to Ernest R. Byrd, her second cousin, and they live at Bridgewater, Va. They had two daughters: Thelma Cor-

nelia born March 10, 1908, and died April 13, 1924; Wanita Phebe born Nov. 11, 1913 and died March 21, 1920.

Anderson M. Lough (4) was married the second time March 11, 1900 to Flora J. Taylor and they had two sons:

Okey T. Lough (5) married Gertrude Gunn and has three children: Katherine Frances, Bettie Ann, and Mary Joice (All in the 6th Hammer generation).

Fred H. Lough (5) bachelor born Nov. 10, 1904. He visited Franklin, Nov. 1, 1935.

Ursula Byrd and Elizabeth Boggs visited the Lough relatives in Braxton County and at Charleston, August 12 to 24, 1941.

Note: Message received May 6, 1945 that Sgt. Robert H. Waggy, aged 23 (son of William Waggy, Sr.) was killed in action over South China, March 15, 1945. He entered the Service in March 1943 and went overseas in Nov. 1944 with his command engaged in the Philippine Campaign and subsequent operations over the Japanese Island and South China. He is survived by his parents, by one sister, Geraldine, a teacher, and by three brothers, Lt. William Waggy, Jr., in New Guinea, and James and Gene at home in Charleston, W. Va., also by his wife who was Anna Lee Mearns, a daughter of I. H. Mearns of Rock Cave, Upshur Co. and by an infant son named Bobbie.

Phebe (Hammer) Lough, the ancestress of this Lough lineage, died Sept. 13, 1884 at the age of 73 years. She was paralyzed and helpless on her right side for a number of years and being a very industrious person learned to knit and do many other things entirely with her left hand.

Katherine (Kitty) Hammer (3) 1814-1894 married Sampson Conrad a son of Ulrich and Sarah (Currence) Conrad and had four children. Lorenza (4) 1836-1864 married Adelaide S. Hess and had three sons: John W. (5) married Belle Hall, Joseph E. (5) married Jane Eye and Lorenza, Jr. (5) married Cora Eye.

After the death of Lorenza (4) Adelaide married Andy Coffman as his second wife. Mollie (4) married Hess and lived in California. No issue.

Mary Ann Conrad (4) 1837-1904 first married William Cowger and had four children: Catherine ("Cassie")

(5) 1857-1941 married Samuel Coffman and had seven children: Laura (6) died single, Frank (6) married Delia Webb and lived in Missouri. No issue. Ruth (6) born 1887 married Simon Hottinger. They live at Fort Seybert and have one son. Tommy (6) died at the age of thirteen and is buried at Fort Seybert. Victor (6) married Mary Ann Dean, daughter of Adam Dean, and lives at Kline. Henry (6) married Edna Deckhart and lived at St. Louis, Mo. Lester (6) a teacher.

Jacob E. Cowger (5) married Emily Ruddle, daughter of John and Mary (Eye) Ruddle. No issue. George W. Cowger (5) died 1909 at fifty years a bachelor.

Mary Ann's second marriage was to Nichodemus Bodkin by whom she had six children: Lee Bodkin (5) 1858-1922 married Mattie, a daughter of George M. and Millie (Swadley) Rexrode and they had a daughter, Thelma (6) who married Ward Messick and had a daughter Reba Messick (7). After the death of Messick she married Ross Lee and they had a son, Billie Lee (7) who was a soldier in the Second World War. Ida Bodkin (5) and Sudie Bodkin (5) both died single. Henry C. Bodkin (5) married Cora Kiser. He died in 1914 at the age of thirty nine years, leaving one son. James Bodkin (5) 1877-1944 married Louie Kee who died Feb. 7, 1926 leaving three children: Noraine (6) married ———— Rogers and has a son Billie Rogers (7), Arlita (6) married ———— Kuykendall of Milam, West Virginia, and has two children, Mary (7) and Ann (7)

Reva (6) was reared by her Aunt Jennie and Uncle Ed Hinkle (her twin sister died in infancy). Reva married Dec. 25, 1946 to Stanley Hevener the only son of Otto C. and Lona (Wagoner) Hevener of Deer Run.

Jennie Bodkin (5) 1880-1945 married Ed Hinkle and died without issue.

Jacob H. Conrad (4) 1840-1898, married Mary E. Gilkeson, daughter of James C. and Mary Trumbo Gilkeson and had four children. James W. Conrad (5) 1865-1945 married Mary M. Eye and they had six children: William (6) married Janet Harper, daughter of W. W and Margie (Teter) Harper and they have three sons: Jim (1), Stephen (7), and Dan (7).

Paul F. Conrad (6) married Neva Miller, a daughter of Ed. T. and Mary (Gilkeson) Miller and they have two sons, Jed (7) and Jake (7). J. Hugh Conrad (6) married Inez Saddler and lives in Washington, D. C.

Mary (6) married Granville Carter. Ruth (6) married Jack Dyer. Mabel (6) single. Virginia Conrad (5) died single.

Albert T. Conrad (5) married Elizabeth J., a daughter of Winfield Propst and had three children: Grace (6) married Masel R. Byrd, Annie (6) married Dr. F. L. Byers. They live in Harrisonburg, Va., and have two children, Charlies Conrad (7) and Frances Anne (7).

Johnnie Conrad (6) married Nora Dunkle and has two children: Bettie Jane (7) and Mary Ann (7).

After Kittie's first husband Sampson Conrad died, she married Joel Siple as his second wife. There was no issue by their marriage.

THE GEORGE AND MARY (HARPER) HAMMER FAMILY

By E. B. B. Their first great grandchild.

The children were Sarah, Leonard and Ben

A trio to gladden the hearts of men.

Next came Catherine, Hannah and Phebe Ann

Each striving to fill the noblest plan.

There were sons, George W., Isaac and John

And William Harrison the eldest one—

Also Ida Lee the youngest child—

Completing the family circle so mild.

A better company did anyone see

Than the branches of that family tree?

But to remember who were their parents

Tells why the children were so grand.

For no finer couple was ever seen

Tho one traveled through many a land!

And here's to the best that can come

To their descendants now scattered from home.

GEORGE HAMMER (3) AND MARY (HARPER) HAMMER'S DESCENDANTS

She was a daughter of Leonard and Phebe (Hinkle) Harper and a grand-daughter of Captain Isaac and Mary (Cunningham) Hinkle.

George and Mary were married October 27, 1836 and lived together almost fifty years in the same house where they went to housekeeping and near where they are buried.

They were the parents of thirteen children: Sarah J., Catherine C., William H. H., Leonard Harper, George W., Benjamin S., Mary Margaret, Isaac Conrad, Phebe Ann, Son—not named, Hannah Ellen, John Cunningham, and Ida Lee.

Sarah Jane (4), born Sept. 1, 1837, died Sept. 22, 1902, and is buried near where she lived at Leroy, Kansas. She was married Feb. 24, 1870 to Peter Wimer and moved to Leroy, Kansas., then a border territory.

They left two children: Howard Hammer Wimer (5) 1874—who married Mamie a daughter of John and Mary (Richardson) Smith and had two children, Clarice (6) married 1917 to Ira J. Layton and they have a son, Ira C. Layton (7) born 1918. Graduated from Kansas University at Lawrence, Kansas, when twenty years of age.

Loyal Venice Wimer (6) born 1904 married Dorothy a daughter of W. J. Walters of Chapman, Kansas, and they have a son (7).

Mary Jane Wimer (5) 1877-1936, married John Amos Dannat and they lived at Belt, Montana. They left three children: Grace Henrietta (6) born 1896 married John Trick and they live on Eden Route, Great Falls, Montana, and have two sons, Arthur Kenneth born 1917 (7) and Charles Merton (7) born 1922.

Henry Milo Dannat born 1898 (6) lives at Council Bluffs, Iowa and has two daughters (7).

Frances Dannat born 1911 married Jay Swett and they live on R. 4 Mt. Vernon, Washington and are the parents of three children: Charles Henry (7) born 1930, Doris Mae (7) born 1933, and Russel Jay (7) born 1936.

Peter Wimer was born in Pendleton county and after a long life at Leroy, Kansas, came back on a visit and died March 12, 1908 while in Virginia at the age of 77 years, and is buried in graveyard with his friend Wash Lamb at or near Cherry Grove, Virginia. He also made a visit back here in 1882 bringing his daughter Mary, then five years old.

Sarah visited her people back here in 1876 and brought their son Howard when he was two years old. She came to her father's sale in 1886 and was home in 1889 and in 1898 making four trips back home in the twenty eight years that she lived in Kansas.

Howard H. Wimer and his daughter Clarice Layton visited me in 1938 and Clarice with her husband Ira Layton visited me in 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wimer of Leroy, Kansas, visited his sister, Mary Jane, in Montana in 1929.

Catherine C. Hammer (4), who was named for her grandmother Catherine Caplinger) was born 1839 and died August 19, 1876 of heart failure and is buried on a high hill near Crabbottom, Va. (Now called Blue Grass, Va.) She was married Dec. 16, 1858 to Ambrose Meadows a son of John and Mary (Harness) Meadows of Elkton, Va. The wedding took place at the residence of her parents four miles north of Franklin. Their children were Mary and Phebe born October 28, 1859, an infant son born and died April 3, 1861, and Ambrose Jr. born April 30, 1862. Phebe Meadows (5) married John W. Byrd and they were the parents of three children: Elsie (6) who married Gordon Boggs Sept. 3, 1904, and they are the parents of four children: John B. (7) married Anna Messick, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. L. C. Messick, and they have two sons: Curtis J. (8) and Wayne R. (8).

Elizabeth Gordon Boggs (7) is a teacher.

Grace Hammer Boggs (7) married James N. Dyer a son of William and Susan Lough Dyer. The ceremony was performed by Dr. D. L. Beard in the Presbyterian Church.

Maryan Boggs (7) (Named for her Grandmother Mary Ann Byrd) was married August 18, 1946, at her home in Franklin, to Richard Etherton of Kenton, Ohio. The ceremony was performed by Dr. D. L. Beard of the Franklin Presbyterian church. Their son, John Richard Ether-ton was born Aug. 31, 1948, at Kenton, Ohio.

Don Byrd (6) born 1882 was married in 1906 to Lura C. Ruddle, daughter of H. Clay and Martha Susan (Hedrick) Ruddle, and they are the parents of two sons: Masel R. Byrd (7) a soldier in the Second World War, married

Grace, daughter of A. T. Conrad of Fort Seybert.

Carl Byrd (7) married Bernice Stites and they have two children (Beverly (8) born 1938 and John William Byrd (8) born 1942. Ernest R. Byrd married Ursula Lough. For their record see the Hammer-Lough lines.

Mary Meadows — twin to Phebe — died Nov. 26, 1934 at the age of 75 years. (Phebe died at the early age of 38 of typhoid fever.) They were baptized Oct. 15, 1877 by Rev. D. Yount, and joined the Dunkard Church, to which they belonged as long as they lived. Mary married David E. Colaw a son of Cyrus and Lucinda White Colaw and they were the parents of eight children: Walter (6) married Bessie Heatwole and they live at Wellsboro, Pa. They have two daughters, Sylva (7) married Corbett Miller and lives in Hollandale, Florida. No issue. Crystal C. (7) married Karl Terry and had two children, Irene (8) and Carolyn (8). Chrystal's second marriage was to Clayton Albee and they live at Corning, New York. No issue.

Ada B. Colaw (6) married John Hammer son of Leonard and Sallie (Harper) Hammer. Her son Luther Colaw married Iva Parker. John Hammer had a son, Jay Hammer who married Miss Rexrode, daughter of Tom Rexrode, and has two children: John Ralph and Kittie Karen. George E. Colaw (6) married Virgie B. Swecker, daughter of John Swecker and has eight children:

Paul (7) married Glenna L. Wimer, daughter of Ambrose and Blanche Wimer.

Virginia B. Colaw (7) married Lt. R. W. Curry of White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Wayne E. Colaw (7), Mary Margaret Colaw (7), Dorothy Jean Colaw (7), George Colaw, Jr. (7), John David Colaw (7), Rebecca Ann Colaw (7).

John William (6) died Oct. 12, 1887 aged two days.

Benjamin H. Colaw (6) married Mrs. Ethel (Fleisher-Playmale) and they have two children: Reba (7) and B. H. Jr., (7) born 1936.

Mary Ruth Colaw (6) died Oct. 21, 1895 of croup, aged four years.

Cyrus W. Colaw (6) born Aug. 31, 1893. Was overseas in First World War, in Bat. E. 150 Field Artillery, A. P. O.

No. 715 American E. F. Fance. After the signing of the Armistice he spent a year in Germany, engaged in Works-Progress Administration. In 1947 he was living in Watsonville, California; is married and has two children: Mary born February 11, 1940 and Ruth born July 26, 1945.

Henry A. Colaw (6) married Grace Newton and lives near Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. Their three children: Ada Mae (7) married Lyle Hinman and died August 6, 1946 leaving two small children, named Jerry and Lyle Henry. Verla (7) married George Rice of Portland, Oregon and has two children.

Henry A. Jr. (7) born 1927 was a soldier in the Second World War. Henry, Sr., his father, was a soldier in the First World War. When he was a small lad in school on one particular day he knew that their minister was to be at their home for dinner and that his mother was preparing a fat chicken, so at noon instead of eating his school lunch he rushed home. His mother, alarmed at seeing him, exclaimed, Henry, are you sick? He said, "No, mother, but I was afraid that I might get sick." So he had dinner with the family and the minister smiled a blessing upon him.

Hazel Colaw (6) died single, October 26, 1924 at the age of twenty two years.

Ambrose Meadows (5) born April 30, 1862, died June 30, 1941. He was married in 1886 to Belle Adams and they had nine children: Dora C. (6) married Ed. P. Simmons and had three sons, Paul, Curtis and Oscar who married Mary Mitchell and has two children. Dora also reared her nephew, Leo Simmons.

Lee Meadows (6) aged 24 was killed August 27, 1929 by the falling of a log when loading a log truck near Horton, West Virginia.

Charles C. Meadows (6) born 1891 died of flu October 23, 1919 in Camp Sheridan, Alabama, as a member of 67th Infantry in the First World War. His wife was Mollie Ward. No issue. Don B. Meadows (6) 1893-1909. David W. Meadows (6) 1895-1941 was a soldier in the First World War. His wife was Emma Smith and their children are, Grayson, Carl, Annie, Charles A., Lona and Hubert.

Lilie M. Meadows (6) 1898-1945, married Ona Thomp-

son and their children are, Ralph J., Ona, Jr., and Dale Edgar. Mary Etta Meadows (6) married Neal Hedrick a soldier in the First World War. They built a home in 1936 near the Hammer church. Their nine children are, Grace, Mason, Clyde J., Emmett, seriously wounded in the Second World War Nov. 19, 1944. He was brought across to Oliver General Hospital in Augusta, Georgia, where he had to remain for about three years.

Marvin P. (7), Golda Mae (7), Glen Ray (7), Bruce (7), and Arvella Ruth (7), Addie Susan Meadows (6) 1903-1933, Hugh Ambrose Meadows (6) 1905-1910.

CATHERINE HAMMER MEADOWS MARRIES SECOND TIME

She was a widow with three children and Andrew J. Colaw was a bachelor of thirty nine years. They were married May 25th, 1871 by the Rev. John F. Funk at the residence of her parents. Her twin daughters, Phebe and Mary then past eleven years, were candlebearers. They wore dresses of buff worsted with small black dots, that had been given to them for the occasion by their Great grandmother. Phebe Hinkle Harper. The attendants were Phebe Ann, sister of the bride and George Colaw, Jr., nephew of the groom and Henry Ephriam Colaw and Gracie Colaw, nephew and niece of the groom. A wedding supper was served to eighty guests after the ceremony. The twins never forgot the great amount of preparation that was made for this occasion.

The bride wore a dark brown sheer wool dress and the groom a new suit of very fine jeans made of black and white mixed wool, woven by his mother, and the suit was made by Mollie Mowery who lived at the Forks of the Waters. The wedding party came down the big, winding stairs in the old home and the ceremony was performed in the large living room.

The day following the couple went on their bridal tour. The bride and groom drove one horse in a little spring wagon that belonged to her father. That evening they arrived at the home of the groom's brother, George Colaw, at the Forks of the Water. The second day they went to the home of the groom's father, George Colaw, Sr., at the old homestead near Crabbottom, Va., and the day following

they walked across the steep hill to the groom's home, a furnished log house where they spent the night. The next day they drove down the north Fork to visit her Uncle Geo. and Aunt Peggie Rymer and the next day they returned to the home of her parents. In June they moved to their home near Crabbottom, taking the three children with them. Their first child was Ida Catherine (5) born Nov. 16, 1872 and died in 1940. She was married to Robert Lee Fitzwater a son of William and Harriet (Nester) Fitzwaters. Robert died May 9, 1936 and he and Ida are buried in the Crabbottom Cemetery. Their home was at Saint George, in Tucker Co. West Virginia. Their nine children: Lloyd (6) 1892-1946 died a bachelor. Sallie married Chas. O. Stalnaker and lives at Morgantown. They have one son William (7) who married Catherine Hineman and has a daughter named Carolyn Lee (8).

Sadie (6) single lives in Florida. Ira (6) twice married. Three sons by the first are Leon, Bobbie and Richard, and by the second three sons are, Donnie, Kenneth and Jerry Jay.

Ernest (6) born 1901 is a bachelor.

Edith (6) married Staley Hovetter and lives in Arizona. Children: Lottie, Katie, Elavond and Edwin who was born 1924 and was a soldier in the Second World War.

Mabel (6) married Reuben Simon and lives at Narrows, Va. No issue.

Roy (6) married Snoda Tennant. Children: Lenna Annabelle, Loren, Rosa Lee, Alfred Roy, and Carol Jean, all in (7).

Edna (6) married Herbert Hawthorn and has a son, Herbert, Jr., (7) born Feb. 10, 1945.

Emma (5) the second daughter of Andrew and Catherine Colaw, was born May 6, 1874. Married Albert Nelson, lives at the old home place near Crabbottom and they are the parents of eleven children: Fannie (6) married Arlie Simmons and has a number of descendants. Mary (6) married Dennis Bowers. They live at Staunton, Va., and have five children: Emma Lavelle (7) married Max Daugherty, Mary Marie (7) married Leo Argerbrite, William B. (7) born April 9, 1920 was killed in the Second World

War. Andrew C. (7) and Fleda (7) live in Staunton.

Fred A. Nelson (6) married Edna Rider and they have a son Freddie (7).

Elsie Grace Nelson (6) was twice married. First to John Rider by whom she had a son, John Jr. (7). After her husband's death she married Luther Propst.

Raymond B. Nelson (6) was married Jan. 29, 1926 to Elva Mullenax and they have a family.

Alice Fern Nelson (6) married Frank Whitecotton. Their children are, Mary-Ellen, Lona Lee and Fern Julia, all in (7).

Forest C., (6) born 1905 married Thelma ———.

Eva Blanche born 1907, married Simmons, a son of Clay and Effie Simmons. No issue.

William Ralph (6), born July 19, 1908.

Richard E. (6) born May 23, 1910.

Woodrow W. (6) born Nov. 12, 1912, married Tressie Propst and has two children, Charles Woodrow (7) and Joyce Ann (7).

William Harrison Hammer (4) 1840-1914, a soldier in the Civil War, moved to Washington Court House, Ohio in 1867 where he married Jan. 19, 1871 to Melvina Jolly. Their children: Howard (5) born 1872, never married. Claude (5) died 1876 aged one year. Pearl (5) born Dec. 25, 1876 was married June 10, 1903 to Carmine Coil. They live near Washington C. H., Ohio and have five sons: Roy H., Harold L., Virgil, Walter Hugh, and Charles Coil, all in (6).

Leotis (5) died 1920 aged 41 a bachelor then in Chicago, Ill.

Georgiana (5) born Aug. 4, 1880 on her Grandfather Hammer's birthday so was named in honor of him. She married in 1917 to Andrew J. Gessner and they live in Detroit, Michigan. No issue.

Grace Ellen (5) died 1883 at the age of six months.

Raymond Jolly (5) born March 7, 1885 and was married in 1915 to Mabel Diemer. Their two children are Carroll (6) born Dec. 25, 1916 and John W. (6) born Dec. 20, 1920, served in the Second World War. His wife's name is Margaret and they have a son, Russell Raymond (7) born

Oct. 1945. Wilmah (5) born Feb. 20, 1896, married Sept. 2, 1922 to Wm. E. Hastings and they have a son, Billie Hastings (6) born July 14, 1923 and served in the Second World War. They visited the Hammer relatives in Pendleton Co. August 1926 and August 15th was Billie's first time to ever attend church. The sermon was by Rev. Joseph I. Hall in the Hammer Church, from Mathew 22:42, "What think ye, of Christ?"

Leonard Harper Hammer (4) 1842-1903 married June 17, 1873 to his first cousin Sarah, a daughter of Jacob, Jr., and Catherine McClure Harper. Their eight children: Sarah Catherine (5) married Harper Hinkle. No issue.

Barbara (5) married in 1906 to Harry Simmons a son of Henry and Mary (Mauzy) Simmons. Their children, Margie (6) died Aug. 6, 1910 at the age of one year, Ruth Harper (6) born 1915, Mary Alice (6) born 1917 married March 30, 1946 to Wayne Warner of Frankfort, West Va.

Luther Hammer (5) married Esther Waybright and they had twelve children, Glen, Bobbie (crushed in a wagon wheel and killed when small). Johnnie, Marie (Newman), Gladys, Leonard, Leona, Cyrus, Virginia (married June 29, 1938) to Ralph a son of Floyd and Caddie (Simmons) Rexrode, Junior received Purple Heart Nov. 29, 1944 in the Second World War, married Dec. 21, 1945 to Martha Swadley Simmons daughter of H. L. Simmons. James Burtner and William Hammer, all twelve in (6).

Mary Hammer (5) married Jan. 4, 1936 to Arthur Simmons, son of Henry and Mary (Mauzy) Simmons and they have one child, Edith Grace (6) who married Tressell Swecker son of Eldridge and Meda (Colaw) Swecker and has two sons, David and Garry.

Maggie (5) married Fred, a son of Philip P. Nelson, and their seven children are Ruth (6) married Kerlin, son of Arthur and Ona (Lambert) Judy and has a family, Roland L. (6) married Mildred a daughter of Glenn and Myrtle Hedrick, Nell C. (6) married Maurice Harper, Carl (6) is single, Mabel Lou (6) married Bard a son of Arthur and Ona (Lambert) Judy and has two children, Peggy Lynn, born 1945 and Nancy Judy. Fred, Jr. died Oct. 21, 1922 aged four years.

Sadie Belle (6) born 1922 married Guy Propst, a teacher in the Circleville High School.

Sudie Hammer (5) died in infancy.

Eva (5) married in 1915 to C. Bartner Gibbs and they have a daughter, Ruby Gail (6) born April 25, 1930.

John Hammer (5) married Ada B. Colaw. For their record see Colaw Family.

George Washington Hammer (4) born May 25, 1844, died Sept. 9, 1940, was the last survivor of Company E. and 62nd Regiment of Va., also the last survivor of the family of his parents. He became a Master Mason in 1875. He was twice married—to his first cousin each time. His first wife was Hannah Kate Rymer, married Dec. 28, 1871. They were baptized May 23, 1878 by Rev. D. Yount and remained in the Dunkard church as long as they lived. Hannah Kate born Dec. 24, 1845, died Dec. 29, 1885, leaving five children, one daughter May, having died Sept. 25, 1882 of diphtheria in her eighth year.

Ora (5) married Howard Dahmer in 1895 and had six children: Arthur, William and Samuel, Lena (6) married Walter W. Black and has four children: Cornelia, Vernon D., Sylvia and Alice (all in 7).

Vernon was killed in action June 29, 1945, in Air Force over Japan. He received his wings in June 1944 at Blytherville, Ark. Alice was married Oct. 6, 1946 to Leonard D. Blakemanship of Corbin, Kentucky.

Catherine Dahmer (6) married Marvin Hevener and they have three children: Richard (7), Virginia (7), and George (7) born in 1937.

Glenora Dahmer (6) married Edward L. Black and they have a daughter named Mary Ora (7).

Ora (Hammer) Dahmer died Sept. 16, 1912 and her husband married the second time to Eva Black.

Lloyd Hammer (5) married Jan. 17, 1901 to Blanch Byrd. Their seven children are listed in the Mary Ann Byrd family.

Ira Hammer (5) married Kate Homan. Their four children are listed in the Frank and Mary Homan family.

Ruth Hammer (5) married Calvin D. Ruddle. Their four children are listed in the John M. Ruddle family.

Edith Hammer (5) 1884-1937 was reared by her Uncle Billie and Aunt Kate Rymer after her mother died. They had no children so she was as a real daughter to them. She married their nephew, Clete Phares, a son of Benjamin and Eliza (Hinkle) Phares and had two children, Elmer (6) married Myrtle Sponaugle and their five children are: Richard, Iva Lee, James, Raymond, and Mary June (all 7).

Myrtle Phares (6) married Rumsey Teter. They live at New Hampton, Va., and have two children, Ethel Teter (7) and Ruby Teter (7).

Benjamin Stickley Hammer (4), 1845-1928, was married in 1876 to Ellen, a daughter of John D. and Phebe (Dice) Harper, and they built a new and modern home in 1889. Their four children: Clarence (5) 1877-1933 married Alberta Dickenson a daughter of Geo. W. and Demarius Dickenson, and had three children—

Dorothy (6) 1903-1931 married Willie C. Simmons. They had two sets of twins: Willard Wayne and William Wayland (7) born Nov. 26, 1929 and Dorothy and Doretha (7) born Feb. 26, 1931 at the time of their mother's death.

Verna (6) married Gordon Smith and their three children are Lois (7), Patsy (7) and Patricia (7).

Junius C. (6) married Shirley Taylor, daughter of George Taylor of Brandywine and their children are Sherry-Gail (7) and Freddie-Clarence (7). Junius served three and a half years in the Navy, two of which he was on a mine sweeper.

Forest C. Hammer (5) married Elva Hartman and they have one child, Shirley E. (6) who married Raymond Davies and has three children, Patrick, Douglass, and Carol Ann, all in (7).

Tressie C. (5) married Martin Stuttler in 1906. After his death she married Hugh C. Boggs. They lived in Miami, Florida. No issue. She died Oct. 11, 1948.

Hurley C. (5) 1885-1943 married Nellie Fisher and she and infant died.

Mary Margaret Hammer (4) died March 2, 1858 at the age of ten, of typhoid fever and one son, not named, died later.

Isaac C. Hammer (4) 1850-1925 married Margaret Snider. They lived at Dayton, Ohio and had two sons: Clyde, who never married, was an invalid for seven years of paralysis, died April 13, 1936.

Karel W. (5) 1887-1934, married Florence M. Jacobs and they had one child, Ruth Lucile, (6), who married Hayden Mitchell in 1937 and they live in Dayton, Ohio.

Phebe Ann Hammer (4) married her first cousin, Jacob C. Hammer (always known as "Budd Hammer") who was a son of Jacob and Timna (Conrad) Hammer and they had two children, Linnie born 1880 and died in 1933 and never married, and Jay S. who was married September 15, 1919 to Josie Michael. They live at Winchester, Va. and are the parents of four children: Paul W. in over seas service, Catherine who married Stanley Working and lives in Washington, D. C., Ray M. who served in the Second World War and Alta Faye who holds a position in Winchester.

By request, the following record was compiled by Mr. and Mrs. Jay S. Hammer. Paul Wright Hammer, born September 9, 1920, was inducted August 6, 1942 into U. S. Army service at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio. Was sent to Panama September 2, 1942 where he received basic training at Fort Amador. October 14, 1943 was sent to Coronto, Nicaragua. May 12, 1944 was sent to Balboa Canal Zone; June 2, 1944 was returned to the United States, in New Orleans, Louisiana and June 8, was assigned to Camp Van Dorn, Miss. September 5, 1944 sent to Camp Hood, Texas and October, November and December was in a sound-ranging school in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, then in January 1945 was sent to Northern France. July 19, 1945 returned to the United States and stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina until October thirtieth when he received the rank of Staff Sergeant and his honorable discharge. He received the following decorations and citations: Medals, for good conduct, American Defense, European African, and Eastern Ribbon with one bronze battle star won in Northern France. His time spent in the Service was three and one third years.

Ray M. Hammer, born June 11, 1926 was inducted into

the U. S. Army Air Force, March 11, 1944 at New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, then stationed at Keesler Field near Boloxi, Miss. until in January 1945 when he was sent to Ellington Field near Houston, Texas. Then in August was sent to Scott Field, Illinois where on November 1, 1945 he received his honorable discharge, having served his country one year, seven months and twenty-one days.

Hannah Ellen Hammer (4) 1856-1936 married David Mallow, a son of Philip and Hannah (Carr) Mallow. They lived at the homestead of her father George Hammer (3) four miles north of Franklin. Their three children were Mary Hannah (5) 1889-1922 who married Jasper Judy. They lived at Upper Tract and had one child, Carl J. Judy (6) born 1918 and after his mother's death he lived with his Aunt Phebe Lee Mallow and her husband Boyd Wimer.

Jay M. Mallow (5) married Sylva Harman and they had five children: Raymond Gerald (6), Ella C. (6), Helen E. (6), Richard D. (6) and Ralph H. (6). David Mallow died Dec. 14, 1930, aged 75 years. He and Hannah E. are buried in the Cedar Hill Cemetery at Franklin.

Phebe Lee Mallow (5) born Nov. 25, 1895, married Boyd Wimer and they have one child, Kathleen Wimer (6). This family moved to McGaheysville, Va. in March 1940. Phebe Lee died there very suddenly Feb. 7, 1948 and was brought to Franklin for burial in Cedar Hill Cemetery. Funeral was preached in the Franklin Presbyterian church by Rev. I. L. Bennett.

John Cunningham Hammer (4) born March 2, 1859 and named for his Great Grandmother, Mary Cunningham Hinkle. He migrated early to Ohio where he married in 1882 Miss Margaret Mouser of Fayette county, Ohio. They had one child, Jesse Claude Hammer (5) born 1883 and married in 1912 to Miss Dorothy Coons and lived at Dayton, Ohio. No issue. This John Hammer is buried in the cemetery at Washington Court House, Ohio, where his brothers, W. H. and Isaac C. Hammer are buried.

Ida Lee Hammer (4) the thirteenth child of George and Mary (Harper) Hammer was born June 30, 1861 and died of heart dropsy August 18, 1935 at her home near Macksville, W. Va. She was first married March 26, 1885

to J. Dice Cowger a son of Job Cowger of Virginia. No issue. Her second marriage on Dec. 31, 1895 was to Charles A. Hedrick. They lived together forty years and were the parents of one child, Glenn Hedrick (5) who was born Dec. 20, 1896. He married Myrtle Raines and lives at the old Hedrick Homestead of his grandparents, Solomon and Martha (Armstrong) Hedrick.

Glenn and Myrtle's seven children: Thelma Grace (6) married Merle Lambert, son of Walter and Eve (Phares) Lambert. Merle died and she was left a widow with two small sons Ronald (7) born 1934 and Donald (7) born 1935.

Virgil (6) born 1917, married Reba Huffman.

Darrell (6) married Margaret Hamrick of Webster Springs, Va. Sheldon (6) married Helen Sams.

Mildred Hope (6) married Roland Nelson, son of Fred and Maggie (Hammer) Nelson.

Gae (6) married Garland Mullenax July 14, 1945 of Circleville. Robert Blake (6) born Oct. 21, 1925.

Charles A. and Ida Hedrick were married in the Hammer church which had been decorated for the occasion and their vows were taken under an arch of evergreens. The wedding ceremony was performed by Rev. J. Spencer Smith of the Presbyterian church. Miss Elsie Byrd, a great-niece of the bride and S. Clay Hedrick, nephew of the groom were their attendants. The wedding party drove in buggies to the church, then returned to the bride's home where a wedding supper was served by her sisters, Mrs. Hannah Mallow and Mrs. Phebe Ann Hammer. The bride wore a very becoming brown, wool dress trimmed in rich brown satin, with hat and gloves to match.

Abel Hammer (3) died at the age of six years, from drinking sugar water while the older children were making maple sugar.

Jacob Hammer (3) son of George (2) and Catherine (Caplinger) Hammer, was born Feb. 21, 1821, died Feb. 4, 1898. His wife, Timna, was a daughter of Ulery and Sarah (Currence) Conrad. Jacob and Timna were married May 12, 1842, and were the parents of eleven children:

Isaac D. (4) 1843-1932 married his first cousin, Mary Lough, a daughter of his Aunt Phebe (Hammer) Lough

and their descendants are recorded in the Phebe and Michael Lough lineage.

Isaac D. served four years in Co. K. 62 Va. Regiment of Imboden's Brigade in the War Between the States. He was wounded in the arm at the battle of New Market, Va. May 15, 1864 and before the wound healed he went into the battle at Fisher's Hill in Va. Sept. 22, 1864, where he was severely wounded in the hip which caused him to be lame for the remainder of his life. He was taken care of during his illness in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Funkhouser at Fisher's Hill. They were Northern Sympathizers but were very kind to him.

When he was shot he realized that the enemy would later search for valuables so he reached at arms length and buried his watch. Afterward Mr. Funkhouser got the watch for him which he kept as long as he lived. He was soon taken to a hospital in Richmond, Va. and after sufficient recovery was brought home in a wagon. He lived a long and useful life, highly honored by all who knew him.

Noah Hammer (4) born Nov. 26, 1844, died May 27, 1862 of typhoid fever.

Howard Hammer (4) born April 9, 1846 was killed in battle at Fisher's Hill, Va. Sept. 22, 1864. He had enlisted as a volunteer only three weeks before. Timna, the mother, rode horseback and carried Lee and Clay her very small sons with her and went to Fisher's Hill to see about her wounded sons. Howard's body was buried six miles above Fisher's Hill and later brought home and buried in the graveyard with his grand parents, and the graves have marble markers.

Sarah J. Hammer (4) 1847-1916 (always called "Sis," to distinguish her from two of her first cousins both bearing the name of Sarah Hammer). This Sarah married Reuben D. Dahmer as his second wife. He also married one of the other Sarah Hammers for his first wife! He died in 1915 and is buried at the Lutheran Church at Upper Tract with the first wife and "Sis" buried in the old Hammer Graveyard with her parents, sisters and brothers. She had a beau in her early days by the name of Henry Dice who crowned her Queen of Love and Beauty at a big tour-

nament at what is now Oak Flat and a piece of her crown is still preserved. She and Reuben had no children but they had a boy who lived with them by the name of Sam Moyers who was as a real son. He died of flu, Jan. 6, 1919.

Jacob Conrad Hammer (4) married his first cousin, Phebe Ann Hammer. For their record see the George and Mary (Harper) Hammer Family.

Ursula Thompson Hammer (4) 1852-1932 married her first cousin, George W. Hammer August 8, 1889 as his second wife. They had a daughter, born and died Feb. 6, 1891. Ursula was baptized and joined the Progressive Brethren Church August 26, 1907. Rev. Joseph I. Hall was the pastor then at the Hammer Church.

Deniza C. Hammer (4) 1855-1922, a member of the Progressive Brethren church, lived a useful life. She never married.

Lee Hammer (4) born May 8, 1862, (the day of the great battle at McDowell Va.) He died Dec. 8, 1937. He was married to Cena, a daughter of George Ritchie in the Harman Hills near Macksville, W. Va. The ceremony was performed Oct. 30, 1884 by Rev. Dee Yount at the home of her parents. Cena died August 21, 1932, aged 65, at their home in Washington, D. C., and was buried in their lot in the M. E. Cemetery at Bridgewater, Va., with their daughter May who died at the age of five years 36 years before.

Lee and Cena's seven children:

Dee Hammer (5) born near Franklin, W. Va. Aug. 18, 1885. He was married Feb. 4, 1908 to Bertha V. Camp and their three children are: Edith (6), Raymond (6) and Lottie (6).

Lou Hammer (5) 1887-1946, born near Franklin and died at her home in Edinburg, Va. She was married May 22, 1907 to Ernest Coffman and they were the parents of eleven children.

May Marie (6) married D. R. Conger.

Virginia Lee (6) single.

Ruby Lou (6) 1911-1913.

Geneva Louise (6) married William Hubble.

Hazel Irene (6) married Fadley.

Violet Rosalie (6) died Sept. 3, 1922 aged six months.

Nellie Ernest (6) married ——— Mitchell.

Madge Elaine (6).

Ernest Franklin (6).

Mabel Christine (6).

Thomas Henry (6).

Clyde Hammer (5) born Oct. 24, 1889 at Bridgewater, Va. Married Grace Valentine Dec. 30, 1912. Their two sons are: Leonard (6) and Wilbur (6).

May Hammer (5) born Nov. 4, 1891 at Bridgewater, Va. Died Oct. 30, 1896 and is buried there.

Sibyl Hammer (5) born Sept. 23, 1896 at Bridgewater, Va. and lives in Arlington, Va.

Paul Hammer (5) born Aug. 25, 1905 and married Oct. 3, 1926 to Elaine Hoffman, daughter of Edward Hoffman and their children are: Bettie (6), Patsy (6), and Donald (6).

Grace Hammer (5) born May 28, 1908 lives with her sister, Sibyl in Arlington, Va.

Clay Hammer (4) traveled in almost every state in the union and then came home and married in 1892 to Elizabeth, daughter of William C. and Mary M. (Siple) Kiser. Their five children: Howard Holt (5) born Aug. 12, 1893 was killed by a falling tree Feb. 11, 1915 while cutting timber on his Uncle Ike Hammer's place. Ernest Byrd and Virgil Homan who were also working saw the tree as it started to fall and called to him, but he did not seem to be able to move—or did not see the danger. They rushed toward him to try to save him but were not in time. His body was badly mangled and bones broken. They carried him to the home of his Uncle Ike where he died in a few hours.

Timna Treva Hammer (5) born March 6, 1895 was twice married, first to Eugene Hoopes and second to William Orthman. They lived in Florida. She died March 17, 1947 while visiting her sister in Pennsylvania. Her remains were returned to Florida for burial. She had no children.

Bessie Blanche Hammer (5) born Aug. 16, 1896 married John R. Gamble and lived at Schuyler, Va. about thirty miles south of Charlottesville, Va. She was survived by her husband and two children: James Reeves Gamble (6)

and Mabel Virginia Gamble (6) who married John Barnett and lives at Staunton, Va.

Viola Vera Hammer (5) born July 10, 1900 married Joseph H. Senger and lives at Mount Sidney, Va. and they have a child named Bettie Joe Senger (6).

Mary Mabel Hammer (5) born April 24, 1904 married W. E. Jones, Jr. and lives at Knoxville, Tenn. They have a child named W. E. Jones the third (6).

Clay Hammer born Dec. 24, 1863 is living at the age of 85 and is the last surviving member of his father's family.

Annie V. Hammer (4) 1865-1925, was married Jan. 20, 1889 to Isaac H. Davis, a son of Addison C. and Sarah Elizabeth (Rexrode) Davis. They both died when Ike was a baby and he and his brother George were reared by their grandmother, Deniza (Conrad) Davis. "Aunt Niza" as she was called, died in 1898 at very advanced age. Her funeral was June 5, 1898.

Ike and Ann's three children: Otha H. Davis (5) 1889-1929 a soldier in the First World War. He married Miss Annie Ramsey and they had one child, Del-Ray Davis (6) who married three times. By his third wife, Helen Fulk he has a daughter named Bettie Lou Davis (7), born Oct. 29, 1939.

Willie May Davis (5) born March 27, 1892 married Arbie Byrd who died March 12, 1922 and she later married Elmer Smith a son of Jared and Ida (Waggy) Smith. No issue. They live near Harrisonburg, Va. and I. H. Davis, her father, lives with them. Born Dec. 7, 1860, he is 88. His grandmother Deniza (Conrad) Davis who reared him, lived to be ninety-odd years of age.

Julius Addison Davis (5) born April 12, 1897 was killed May 6, 1921 near Clifton, Va. when his truck was hit by a fast train. He was survived by his wife who was Nida Rexrode and by one child, Norma Davis (6) who married Millard Hoover. They live in Harrisonburg, Va., and have a son (7) born 1942.

Julius Davis is buried in the Byrd Graveyard three miles north of Franklin with his mother and brother and their graves are marked with marble stones.

Mary Ann (Hammer) Byrd (3) the youngest child of

George (2) and Catherine (Caplinger) Hammer.

Mary Ann was born April 2, 1823 and died March 11, 1899 at the home where she spent fifty years of her life.

After her mother's death Jan. 10, 1847 she kept house for her father for two years, then on January 4, 1849 she was married to James W. Byrd, a son of John and Mary (Coffman) Byrd.

James W. Byrd came from the Valley of Virginia to Pendleton County to build the McCoy Mill three miles south of Franklin, met Mary Ann and changed his mind about returning to the Valley.

He was a man of ability and became a useful citizen on the South Branch where they settled. She was given land and some money by her father and they built a modern home and a flour mill and prepared for a long and prosperous life together; but after twelve years of prosperity the Civil War came on which changed everything.

Being a miller he was at first exempted from service, then later captured as a prisoner of war and lodged in the prison at Franklin which was filled with soldiers dying of typhoid fever. His sympathy was aroused and he waited on them faithfully until he contracted the terrible malady, then was sent home to die. Consciousness never returned and he passed away July 1, 1862. This was shortly after the battle of McDowell, Va., and many of the wounded Federals that were captured after the battle were confined in the prison in Franklin. Mary Ann, then a widow at 39 was left to rear their four children: Clay Osceola, Mary Catherine, John William and Adelaide Susan (all in 4). It was with great fortitude that she faced the struggle for their existence, as the soldiers, first in the Federal then in the Confederate armies that camped on her farm took almost everything that they had in the way of food.

Clay O. Byrd (4) 1850-1897 was married March 19, 1874 to Fannie, daughter of John D. and Phebe (Dice) Harper and they were the parents of ten children: Lilian O. (5) 1875-1947, married Baxter Daugherty Nov. 20, 1911. No. issue.

Luna H. Byrd born June 27, 1876 was twice married. May 13, 1894 she married Walter Scott Homan, son of

Frank D. and Mary (Ruddle) Homan. Walter died July 18, 1898 of typhoid fever and left her with two small sons: Virgil R. Homan, (6) born May 20, 1895 married Nov. 3, 1920 to Miss Leafy Mitchell, daughter of Sylvester and Mary Jane (Kiser) Mitchell and their sons are Morris (7), Richard, J. Reid, V. R. Jr., Walter Byrd, and John Franklin Homan (all in 7).

Walter Scott, Jr., (6) born August 13, 1897 died of flu at Camp Mead, Oct. 9, 1918.

Luna's second marriage was to Pinckney, son of Josiah and Margaret (Nelson) Simmons and they were the parents of four children: Lilian (6) born Oct. 24, 1905 married in 1922 to Dee Ruddle, son of Newton and Susan (Dahmer) Ruddle and their children are: Leo, Wayne, Harold, Norman, Ruby, Nellie May, Lilian Grace, Olin Bruce, Ethel Louise, Lary Richard, Sarah Ann and Robert Ronald (all 13 in 7 Hammer Generation). Leo, the eldest was married in March 1948 to Miss Lydia J. Kemp by Rev. John N. Ritter. Their home will be at 130 W. Mapel Ave., Hershey, Penn.

William Len Simmons (6) born April 29, 1904 married Eva May Rader and they have one child, Alda Lauraine Simmons (7) who graduated May 24, 1946 in Franklin High School.

Beulah Simmons born 1914, married 1934 to Charles Miller and they have three children: Donald Len (7) and Jerry Byrd (7) a daughter (7) born Feb. 1948.

Gilda Simmons (6) born 1918 married 1944 to Edwin Paul Hedrick, son of Garnet and Lena (Lambert) Hedrick. They have a son, Lary Richard (7) born March 13, 1946.

Cletus O. Byrd (5) born Feb. 16, 1878, married Mayme Harman. No issue.

Otho D. Byrd (5) born March 26, 1879. Married Oct. 21, 1908 to Etta Siple and they have four children: Imogene (6) born 1910, Woodrow S. (6) born 1914 and married July 5, 1939 to Mary Virginia Keesecker of Martinsburg, W. Va., Sheldon (6) born 1918 and married Jan. 27, 1940 to Mary Tenor of Martinsburg, W. Va., Walter Elwood (6) born 1925, served in the Second World War and received several battle stars. He was married July 25, 1948 to Miss

Mary Fay Smith of Sugar Grove.

Verna Blanch Byrd (5) 1881-1938 married January 17, 1901 to her second cousin, Lloyd Hammer, son of George W. Hammer and they were the parents of seven children: George O. Hammer (6) born 1902, married in 1924 to Roma Ruddle a daughter of W. P. and Carrie (Ruddle) Ruddle and their eight children are: Ima Lynn (7) married Carl, son of Royal and Merlie (Lambert) Warner, George Ona (7), when home on furlough and while deer hunting was accidentally shot and killed, December 1, 1948, Neva Catherine (7), Dale Ruddle (7), Gene Scott (7), Orva Uvon (7), John C. (7), and Wanita Blanch (7) who died in her fourth year.

Roy Hammer (6) born 1904, married 1924 to Grace, daughter of Charles and Lura (Judy) Moyers and their three children: Charles (7) who married Kittie in 1946 a daughter of Saylor Ruddle and has a daughter, Carol Ann, born Jan. 1, 1949.

Serena Hammer (7) born August 14, 1947, married Sept. 8, 1948 to Mayo H. Judy, married by Dr. D. L. Beard in the Franklin Presbyterian Church.

Harry Byrd Hammer, born Aug. 5, 1928, a world war soldier. Reenlisted Nov. 1947 and sailed for the East in January 1948.

Marvin Hammer (6) born 1906 married Nellie Mitchell a daughter of Albert Mitchell, and their four children are, Delton Ray (7), Albert Lloyd (7), Rebecca Ann (7) and Myrtle (7).

Howard Hammer (6) born 1908 married Geneva Brooks and their children are: Shirley (7), born 1937 and Denzel Lloyd (7) born 1938.

Raymond Byrd Hammer (6) born 1911 married Sylva, daughter of Clarence and Elsie Hartman and their children are, Lynda Kay born 1940 and Gary Steve born 1942.

Fannie Kate Hammer (6) born 1918 married Richard R. Demastus of Middlebrook, Va. No issue.

Verna Blanche (6) born 1922 married Russell B. Propst and their children are Stanna Louise (7), Alma Joyce (7), and Velda Jean (7) born July 5, 1944.

Arlie C. Byrd (5) 1887-1932 married in 1913 to Ella,

daughter of David Hedrick and their children: Masie (7), Dale (7), and Layman (7), killed in action in the Second World War, April 9, 1945.

Arbie Guy Byrd (5) 1888-1922 married Willie May Davis, daughter of I. H. and Annie (Hammer) Davis. Their only child, Eris Finley (6) died March 21, 1915 at the age of nine months.

Leslie Ray Byrd (5) born 1890 married Mae Harper, daughter of George and Emma (Rymer) Harper. Their three children: Maurice (5) born 1913, married Elsie Lambert. Wayne (5), born 1915 (bachelor) and Leslie Mae Byrd (5) born 1918, married Irving Basel Keller in 1936 and their son, Irving Basel, Jr., was born April 22, 1938. Dick M. Byrd (5) 1892-1929 married Mabel Lantz. No issue.

Mary Catherine Byrd (4) 1854-1934 married 1879 to Morgan Gilbert Trumbo who died August 1, 1904 while in the Legislature in Charleston, W. Va. His body was accompanied to his home at Brandywine by six of his friends, members of the Legislature who were pall-bearers at his funeral August 3rd at which there were more than a thousand friends and relatives. The funeral was preached by Rev. Hinkle, pastor of the Christian Church of which he was a faithful member.

Children: Aud Byrd Trumbo (5) 1881-1902 graduate of Dunsmore Business College, died of typhoid fever shortly after having accepted his first work as a book keeper.

Lon Dyer Trumbo (5) born 1882, married Dec. 30, 1911 to Jane Bowers and they have one child, Dorothy who was married Sept. 29, 1934 to Dr. Richard H. Boggs, son of Hugh and Annie (Daugherty) Boggs and their three children are Richard Trumbo (7), Jean Hamilton (7), and Jane Ann (7).

Grover C. Trumbo (5) born August 2, 1884 was married October 16, 1920 to Sunshine Bonner Pope of Texas. They live at Norfolk, Va., where he is a dentist. Their children are: Sunny Byrd Trumbo (6) born 1922 and married February 1, 1947 to Rolph Williams, a son of Capt. and Mrs. Anders Williams. Susan Pope Trumbo (6), born June 14, 1928 and Richard Trumbo (6), born February 2, 1933.

Cleda Trumbo (5), born Feb. 14, 1888 is postmistress at Brandywine, W. Va.

Shirley Trumbo (5) born June 7, 1890 was married September 8, 1910 to Harry H. Kiser. They live in Greeley, Colorado and are the parents of four children: Mary Louise Kiser (6), born June 25, 1912 is a teacher, Alma Lee Kiser (6) born 1914 was married June 17, 1942 to Lieutenant Emory Anderson Kemper at Roswell, New Mexico. Capt. Kemper, Commander of a cannon company in the Eighth Army was killed in action June 2, 1944 in Italy where he served through all the Italian Campaign. He was in the Service three and a half years.

Shirley Marie Kiser, (6) born March 1, 1918 was married May 25, 1942 to John Patrick Scanlon at Fairbanks, Alaska. Their children: Patricia Lee Scanlon (7), born March 13, 1944, and Michael Scanlon (7), born Oct. 30, 1946.

Raymond Trumbo Kiser (6) born October 16, 1915 is single. He is a chemist and works in Alaska for the U. S. Government.

Beulah Trumbo (5) born December 23, 1893 was married April 3, 1923 to Walter G. Simpson. They have one child, Mary Helen (6) born June 18, 1929 and they live at the "Old-Grandma-Betsy Bodkin Keister Homeplace." (This Betsy Bodkin married John Davis Keister and they were the parents of A. J. Keister who married Huldah Armstrong, and they were the parents of Cora who married Joe Simpson and they were Walter's parents.) So Mary Helen is in the fifth generation to live in this home, which has been remodeled into an attractive, modern home.

John William Byrd (4) married Phebe Meadows and their children are Elsie (5), Don (5), and Ernest (5). For their records see Catherine (Hammer) Meadows lineage.

Adelaide Susan Byrd (4) 1860-1906 married George W. Davis, son of Addison C. and Sarah Elizabeth (Rexrode) Davis. These parents died very early and two small sons were reared by their Grandmother, Deniza Conrad Davis, who died in 1898 at a very advanced age, the widow of Isaac L. Davis. George W. died May 15, 1913 in his fifty fourth year, survived by one son, Ona E. Davis who

was married February 21, 1907 to Estie C. a daughter of Palser and Caddie (Bowers) Smith and their children are: Lola K. born 1909 and married in 1939 to Victor J. Haydell the second and they have two children, V. J. the third (7) born 1940 and Douglass Alan (7) born 1943.

Helen Davis (6) born 1911, Dorothy Davis (6) born 1913, married in 1940 to Thomas S. Corse and they have a son, T. S. Jr., born April 15, 1944.

SECOND PART OF LINEAGE BOOK NO. 1

HENRY HAMMER (2) born February 2, 1793 and died December 12, 1827 at the early age of thirty four years. He was a son of George, the pioneer and was born on the South Branch. His wife was Phebe daughter of George and Catherine (Dice) Caplinger and they were the parents of four children: John (3), Adam (3), Christina (3) and William Henry (3), who was only six months old at the time of his father's death, then he died August 6, 1838 at the age of ten years, one month and nineteen days. All four of Henry's children were born in the old log house before mentioned.

John (3) built a modern frame house near the old one and his mother lived with him until the time of her death about thirty years after the death of her husband. John was married three times but had living children only by the first marriage to Matilda, daughter of Jacob and Dorothy Bolton. The two children by this marriage were Sallie Ann (4) who died August 1, 1926. She married Jacob P. Wagoner, son of William and Dorothy (Nestric) Wagoner. Jacob P. born Sept. 22, 1856 died suddenly Jan. 27, 1919 of apoplexy—survived by his wife and three children:

Ina Wagoner (5) married Theodore P. Siple, a son of Josiah H. and Rachel (Bever) Siple and they had one child, Boyd Siple (6) who was married March 1940 to Beulah G. Propst, daughter of Elmer Propst and they have a daughter named Judith Ann Siple (7) born Oct. 30, 1946.

Lona Wagoner (5) born Dec. 20, 1893 married Otto C. Hevener (5) (her second cousin) a son of A. M. and Mahala (Lough) Hevener. O. C. was born Nov. 6, 1890 and he and Lona are the parents of five children:

Marion (6), Evelyn (6), Stanley (6), Alma (6), and Lucile (6). Evelyn married Edwin, son of Annie and Cecil Shaw and Stanley married Dec. 25, 1946 his cousin, Reva Bodkin, daughter of James T. and Louise (Kee) Bodkin.

Roy Wagoner (5) married Nora, daughter of Andy and Helen (Kiser) Dahmer and they have four children: Virgil (6), Hilda (6), Roy, Jr. (6), and Helen (6), who was married June 22, 1946 to Harry N. Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Hill of Broadway, Virginia, and they have a daughter named Lana-Kay (7).

Deniza J. Hammer (4) born July 15, 1865 died October 18, 1922. She was married to Harry Harold, son of John T. and Margaret (McCoy) Harold and their three children: Mary (5), married Aubrey Yager. They live in Washington, D. C. No issue.

Leona (5), married Fred Propst. They live in Washington, D. C., and are the parents of five children: Billie (6) who died from burns when about a year old. Jane (6), Jean (6) married April 21, 1945 to Richard O. Eye, son of Don and Audery (Hevener) Eye, June (6), and Jack (6).

Harry Harold died Dec. 16, 1946 aged 86 years and nine months and is buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery, Franklin, W. Va.

John Harold (5), named for his Grandfather Harold, married Vesta, daughter of Melvin and Mary (Keister) Guyer and has five children: Wanita (6), Virgil (6), Watson (6), Helen (6), and John Jr. (6).

Adam Dice Hammer (3), son of Henry and Phebe (Caplinger) Hammer was born Feb. 14, 1823 in Pendleton Co., West Virginia, and died January 9, 1888 in Black Hawk county, Iowa and is buried in Hillside Cemetery one and a half miles north of Cedar Falls, Iowa.

His wife was Malinda, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Dickenson) Wagoner and was born June 5, 1822 in Pendleton county and died June 20, 1894 at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Adam and Malinda were married March 18, 1847 by Rev. John Pope of the U. B. Church in Pendleton county, then Virginia, and they lived five years at the spring near where the Hammer church was later (1880) built. They moved

west in 1852 and settled near Jasper Mills, Washington Court House, Ohio. Then in 1855 they moved to Cedar Falls, Iowa, where they lived the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of three children: Elizabeth (4) born Aug. 22, 1848 where they first settled and died March 23, 1883 in Ohio at the home of her grandmother, Elizabeth Wagoner who had moved to Ohio.

William Henry Hammer (4) born March 5, 1854 in Ohio, died Sept. 21, 1932 at Cedar Falls, Iowa. His wife was Belle Kerr, daughter of George and Rachel Kerr. They were married Nov. 25, 1885. She was born Oct. 18, 1867 and died May 30, 1931. They were the parents of four children: Adam Floyd (5) born June 21, 1890 and was twice married. First to Verna Waugh on March 15, 1916 and they had a daughter named Berdine (6), born Dec. 30, 1916 who married Lloyd Gress Feb. 24, 1938 and they have a daughter named Beverly Jean Gress (7) born Nov. 21, 1940 and they live at Waterloo, Iowa, six miles east of Cedar Falls.

Adam Floyd's wife died when their daughter Berdine was twenty two months old and his second marriage in January, 1930 was to Verda Scanlon.

Vera Hammer (5) born October 5, 1892 was married August 1926 to Fred Otto and they are the parents of four children: Leta Otto (6), Wanita (6), Floyd (6), and Romain (6), born Dec. 1930.

Harold Hammer (5) born May 18, 1898 was married in 1920 to Eleen Gardner and they are the parents of four children: Geraldine H. (6), Vivian (6), Marian (6) and William Harold (6). So far this son, William Harold Hammer is the only one to carry on the name Hammer, in the Henry and Phebe (Caplinger) Hammer lineages.

Hilda Hammer (5) born April 25, 1908 married John J. Obrien and they live at 4948 Boloxi, North Hollywood, Los Angeles, California.

Lou (Hammer) Clark (4) born May 8, 1861 in Iowa, died there Dec. 15, 1943. She was married Feb. 5, 1891 to Albert J. Clark of Cedar Falls, Iowa, and they lived together almost fifty three years. They were the parents of three children: Harry Adam Clark (5) born Oct. 9, 1892 at Cedar

Falls, Ia., was married Nov. 26, 1936 to Margaret Cotton and they live at 4176 Burns Ave., Detroit, Michigan. They have a son named John Douglass Clark (6), born Nov. 10, 1938. Harry A. Clark served in the Navy in the First World War on board Ship Zuiderdyk, between New York and France and also served in South America.

Everett Tracy Clark (5) born 1897 died Nov. 18, 1918 of flu at Camp Ames in Iowa.

Clarence Albert Clark (5) born 1903 was married July 29, 1926 to Ruth Nelson and they are the parents of two children: Gloria Ann (6) born 1933 and James Albert (6) born 1940. They live at 1619 W. 9th St., Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Lou Hammer Clark is a descendant of Roger Dyer who was killed by the Indians at the Massacre of Fort Seybert in Pendleton County in 1758. She visited her many Hammer relatives in Pendleton county during the spring of 1886 and she wrote that Easter Sunday came on the same day of the month in 1943 as it did during her visit.

Will and Belle Hammer visited their relatives here during the summer of 1896 and had two very beautiful children with them—Floyd, about six and Vera, four.

Lee Hammer's daughter Lou, born March 3, 1887, was named for this Western Cousin Lou Hammer.

Christina Hammer (3) the only daughter of Henry and Phebe Caplinger Hammer, married William Lough, a son of John and Sarah Harpole Lough, and had ten children: Phebe (4) named for her grandmother, married William F. Smith, a son of Daniel and Mollie Bowers Smith, and had two children: John C. Smith (5) who died February 4, 1943 in his 81st year. His wife was Ida, daughter of James B. and Mary Hinkle Bennett. John and Ida had one child, Lester Smith (6), who married Beulah, a daughter of Rymer and Ann Judy Calhoun and their children are William Lester, Rebecca Ida, Katherine and Richard Smith.

Christina L. Smith (5) 1860-1939 married Eugene, a son of Henry Keister and had eight children: J. Claude (6) married Clarissa Ward of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Dr. Harry S. Keister (6) lives in Fairmont, West Virginia.

Gertrude V. Keister (6) married C. H. Marsteller. They live in Parkersburg, West Va. and have two children, James K. and Agnes.

Glenn A. Keister (6) lives at Fairmont, West Va. and has two daughters, Carol and Christine. Annie V. Keister (6) married John, son of James and Katherine Arbogast Kee, and has two children: Katherine who married Bill Propst and John Jr. who married Gladys Lambert and has the following children, Harry Alan, Jonnie and Pamela Mae Kee.

Luther Keister (6) died of typhoid fever in 1911, Dr. Walter L. Keister (6) lives at Ellicott City, Maryland. Leslie A. Keister (6) is a teacher and lives at Upper Tract. He married Cloe Dunkle and they have two children, James and Ruth. The Keister descendants held a family reunion at the parental home at Upper Tract, July 27, 1947 with all of the families present except J. Claude who was ill at the time. He died January 3, 1948, aged 65 years at his home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where he lived for forty years, survived by his wife, and by one daughter, wife of Tyron Smith, and by two sons, William Eugene and Claude Leon Keister.

Phebe Lough Smith (4) was married the second time to John Bowers, Sr. They lived on Friends Run and were the parents of four children: Emma (5) married Calvin Simmons and had two sons, Marshall (5) was twice married, to Jennie Harold and Dovie Morrall. No issue by either marriage.

William B. Bowers (5) married Mollie Hammer and for the names of their ten children see the family record of Taylor and Urbanna Frances Hammer in the Elias, Sr. group.

Pearlie Bowers (5) born 1882 married Jane Waggy a daughter of Billie and Martha Moyers Waggy and they have one child, Roy E. Bowers (6) born 1911 and married Virginia, a daughter of James and Meda Bible and they are the parents of the following children: Earl, Ruby, Eugene, Ruth Elene, Sue Ann and Mary Frances. Ursula Lough (4) married Henry Bowers, a son of John Bowers, Sr. by his first wife, Leah Simmons, and they were the parents of

six children: Virginia (5) 1876-1946 the wife of John M. Waggy. No issue.

Ida (5) died 1939, wife of William Waggy and mother of the following children: Ray, Stanley, Paul, Cleda and Nellie, who married ———— Rhodes and has a daughter named Nina Gay Rhodes.

Mattie (5) born about 1880 was married in January 1900 to W. Frank Eye, a son of William W. and Susan Eye of Fort Seybert, and their children are as follows: Elsie (6) married R. W. Riley, lives at Grove Spring, Mo., and has two children, Bobby and Billy Riley.

Bessie V. (6) born 1901 married George F. May and lives at Fort Seybert. Their children are Conway, Violet, Durwood, and Maxine May.

Lena Lee Eye (6) born 1903 married Minton Gates and lives at Barsou, Calif., and their children are Martha and Billy Joe Gates.

Harry Russell Eye (6) born 1904, single, lives at Tucson, Arizona.

Edgar Allen Eye (6) born 1906 married Virginia Propst and lives at Waynesboro, Virginia and their children are: Doretha, Sheldon, Arvona, and Dwaine.

Ethel Elizabeth Eye (6) born 1907 married Bernard Pitsenbarger and lives at Deer Run. Their children are: Janet (7), Harlan (7), Helen (7) and Leon (7).

Hazel Catherine Eye (6) born 1909 married Theodore Osterman and lives in Claments, California. No issue.

The eighth child a daughter of W. F. and Mattie Eye was born and died at the time of the death of the mother June 1, 1911.

Gertie Bowers (5) married Luther Hedrick and had five children: Lester, Lacy, Brooke, Velma, and Bettie all in the 6th generation.

John Bowers, Jr., (5) grandson of John, Sr., was born 1885 and died in 1942 and is buried at the Ruddle church. He married Julia Bennett and had five children: Mildred (6) married Paul Johnson, Retha (6) married Harley Raines, Ruth (6) married William Vandevender, Anna (6) married Floyd Simmons, Jr., Grace (6) graduated in the 1948 class of the Franklin High School and was Salutator-

ian of her class, Carl (6) is a student in the Franklin High School.

Ashby C. Bowers (5) married Bessie Hammer, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Hammer, and they have one child, Stanley Bowers (6) who married Guilda Jenkins. He was a soldier in the Second World War, and later, a merchant in Franklin.

Henry Clay Lough (4) died in childhood.

Mary Lough (4) burned to death when ten years old.

George H. Lough (4) was a soldier in the Civil War, then went to Ohio. He died single.

John W. Lough (4) was a Civil War Veteran. He married Emma Mains and lived in Ohio. Children: Charles Lough (5) lived at Greenfield, O. Washington Lough (5) lived at Good Hope, O., George Lough (5) born 1870 died December 1934 at Greenfield, Ohio. His wife was Elizabeth Lavery and they had a son, Richard Lough (6) and a daughter, Mildred (6) who married ———— Wheeler. (John and Emma have had other children.)

Jane Lough (4) married Adam Wagoner, a son of William and Dorothy (Nestric) Wagoner and had six children: Isaac Wagoner (5) married Sudie Clayton a daughter of Jacob Clayton, and had seven children: Glenn W. (6) had a son Harry Wagoner who served in the second World War.

Bess (6) married Russell W. Dice and lives in Franklin. No issue.

Annie (6) married Sam Dahmer a son of Joe and Susan Dahmer, and lives in Akron, Ohio and they have two sons, Sam (7) and Jack (7).

Lester Wagoner (6) lives near Wier's Cave in Va.

William Wagoner (6) married Pauline Baker and lives at Wier's Cave and they have two sons, Billie (7) and Richard (7).

Irene Wagoner (6) married Ernest S. Wright and lives in Staunton, Va., and has one child William Wright (7).

Cloe Wagoner (6) married J. Wade Powell and has two children, Dorris-May (7) and John (7).

Wade Wagoner (5) married Mary Temple. No issue.

Rose Wagoner (5). Scott Wagoner (5) married Sarah Ann Hinkle a daughter of Noah and Christina (Mallow) Hinkle and they had children: Jesse (7) single, George (7) married Lillie May Freeman and lives in Richmond, Va. Their children are Bettie (7) and twin daughters, Susie and Georgia (7).

Vivian (6) married Glenn Lambert and lives in Harrisonburg, Va. and has a family.

Virginia (6) married James McLaughlin and lives in Franklin. Children: E. Wilson McLaughlin born October 20, 1922, was killed in the Second World War. Paul (7) born in 1924, William Jesse (7) born 1926. Elizabeth (7) born 1928, Sarah Lucile (7) born 1930, Mary Lee (7) born 1931 and Martha (7) born 1935.

Martha ("Mat") Lough (4) died Nov. 2, 1903 in her 56th year. She was the second wife of John H. Samples. No issue. Ruhama ("Hama") Lough was the first wife of John H. Samples. They were married in 1873. He was a Confederate Soldier and died in October 1937. Their nine children were: Nancy (5) married James H. Lamb. Georgia E. (5) married Harvey Taylor in 1904. Isaac F. (5) died Dec. 28, 1908, single.

David C. (5) married Beatrice Pullin. Elijah (5) married Martha Givens and lived in Braxton County, West Va.

Charles W. (5) married Frances Helms in 1910. Edward Kenton (5) married Minnie Hough.

Henry T. (5) and Grover C. (5). These names were given to me by Mrs. Mary Samples of Monterey, Va. in 1947. She could not give names of their families.

Mahala M. Lough (4) married Anderson Moffett Hevener. Their children: Hannah Virginia (5) 1871-1941, married Nov. 2, 1893 to James W. Hevener of Elkins, West Virginia, and had three children: J. Fred Hevener (6) of Charleston, Mrs. Clay B. Whetzell (6) and Mrs. Bretsel Gainor (6).

Geo. Baxter Hevener (5) 1873-1947 married Virginia Simmons, a daughter of Josiah and Margaret (Nelson) Simmons of the Buffalo Hills and had the following children:

George E. Hevener (6) of Elkins, J. Lester Hevener (6) of Baltimore. Mrs. Leona McKinney (6) of Grafton, Mrs. Va. Dare Cooper (6) of Newport News, Va., Mrs. Freda Carrick (6) of Elkins, Mrs. Vivian Shields (6) of Grafton, Mrs. Lillie Steindler (6) died in 1932.

Gertrude Hevener (5) married Phil Trumbo. Minnie (5). Otto C. Hevener (5) born Nov. 6, 1890 married Leona C. Wagoner. For their children see the family of Jacob and Sallie Ann (Hammer) Wagoner.

Audrey Hevener (5) died March 27, 1937. Her husband was Don Eye and they had three children: Ona (6) born April 15, 1918 and died in a Jap Prison in 1942, Richard Eye (6) married Jean Propst a daughter of Fred M. and Leona (Harold) Propst of Washington, D. C.

Wilma Eye (6) married Mark Wimer, son of John Wimer.

Of the 36 soldiers from Pendleton county who gave their lives in the Second World War seven were descendants of George Hammer, the Pioneer who settled on the South Branch three miles north of Franklin in 1761.

Pfc. Laman C. Byrd (6) son of Arlie and Ella Byrd volunteered for service June 3, 1941 at the age of twenty three years and was killed in action in Germany, April 9, 1945.

Lieutenant Vernon D. Black (7) and (8) was killed in action, June 29, 1945, in a mission over Okayama, Japan. He was a co-pilot on the B-29 Superfortress base in Tinian.

He was a graduate of the 1940 class of the Franklin High School after which he spent three years at Shepherd College. He entered the Service as an aviation cadet in January 1943 and received his wings in June at Blythesville, Arkansas. His body was returned to America and buried Jan. 26, 1949 in Zachary Taylor National Cemetery at Louisville, Ky.

Corporal Ona D. Eye (6) born April 15, 1918, joined the church Sept. 25, 1936, volunteered for Service June 6, 1940. Captured by the Japs at Pearl Harbor, December 6, 1941 and died in a Jap prison about May 12, 1943. On June 4th his family received the notice of his death through Red Cross officials. Memorial services were conducted for him

at the Franklin Methodist church June 6, 1943 by Rev. Knowles from Deut. 3rd chapter. The subject was, "He hath not died in vain." Soldiers in uniform marched carrying white flowers and flags which they deposited on the altar. The services were closed with the sounding of "Taps" in the distance.

His mother who died March 27, 1937 was Audrey Hevener a daughter of Moff and Mahala (Lough) Hevener and a grand daughter of Christina (Hammer) Lough.

Veston Harold (7) born July 18, 1909 received his degree from the law school of the West Virginia University in May 1942, was inducted into Service January 19, 1943 and died of pneumonia in March 15, 1943. Was married to Ruth Harper who survives him.

E. Wilson McLaughlin born Oct. 20, 1922. Was inducted into the Service in February 1940. His death was reported here July 16, 1942.

Walter G. Kile, son of Will and Dessie Kile was killed in action.

Pfc. Jacob H. Kile (7) born April 4, 1922 was inducted into the U. S. Army October 30, 1942, killed in action June 11, 1944 in Normandy, France where he was a machine gunner with the 83 Infantry Division. His body was returned and given a Military funeral May 20, 1948 and his remains were buried in the cemetery at Upper Tract. He was a son of Eston and Edith Kile and son of a family of ten children.

HAMMER LINEAGE BOOK NUMBER TWO IS OF BALSOR HAMMER, A BROTHER TO GEORGE HAMMER THE PIONEER WHOSE DESCENDANTS ARE RECORDED IN BOOK NUMBER ONE.

Balsor (sometimes in later years spelled Palsor) was listed in the Muster Rolls of Pendleton Militia, in Captain William Jones' Company, and received a pension in after life for his services. (See West Virginia History, a quarterly magazine, number one of volume nine, dated October, 1947 and titled, "West Virginians in the American Revolution.")

Captain William Jones' Militia district extended from Balsor Hammer's on the South Branch across to the west

fork of Dry Run, including the head of the North Fork. For the will of Balsor Hammer (1), see Will Book, number four, page 179 in Pendleton county Clerk's office, probated November 3, 1824, "To wife Elizabeth, then to Elizabeth the wife of my son George." Balsor Hammer (1) married Elizabeth Simmons a daughter of Leonard and Mary A. Simmons. They built their home at what was later known as Cave about ten miles south of Franklin the county seat of Pendleton county. Their log house is still standing in 1949 and the stream near it continues to be known as "Hammer's Run."

When his brother George Hammer died in 1801 Balsor was named in his will as Executor, also as guardian for his children under age, see Will Book, number one, in Pendleton county Clerk's Office.

Balsor and Elizabeth's nine children (the second generation) were: Leonard, no issue, Elizabeth married Isaac Friend in 1812, Mary married Michael Hively in 1837, Frances married Loftus Pullen of Highland county in 1819, Sarah married Martin Moyers in 1804, Katherine married Mathias Wolf and moved to Ohio, Margaret married Adam G. Miller of Highland county, Susan married ——— Rexrode, and George married Elizabeth Daggy and had a family of ten children and lived at the homestead of his parents: Jacob (3) married Phebe Moyers and moved to Ritchie County in 1845.

Henry (3) married Catherine Simmons and moved to Lewis county.

Adam (3) born in 1827 married Sidney a daughter of Lewis and Mary (Rexrode) Moyers and moved to Lewis county.

Elizabeth (3) married Solomon Rexrode, a son of Zachariah Jr., a son of Zachariah, Sr., a pioneer settler who was a black-smith, making fine bells the sound of which could be heard for several miles. He purchased the Sumalt Place a fine farm seven miles south of Franklin and in 1948 this farm is still in the Rexrode families. Both of these elder Rexrodes were on the list of Tithables in Pendleton county in 1790.

Susan (3) married Joseph Mauzy.

Mary (3) married David Mauzy in 1810 in Highland county, Va. a son of Michael and Grace Laird Mauzy and had nine children: Mary (4) married Henry, a son of Henry and Rachel Simmons. Others in this 4th generation of Mauzy children were Minnie, Grace, Sarah, George, Michael, David, Charles and Whitfield Mauzy.

Samuel (3) married Catherine Moyers and moved to Highland county in 1882 and died in June 1897 at his home on the Bullpasture, north of McDowell, Va. Samuel and Catherine had a son by the name of Edward Ashby Hammer (4) who was the father of 17 children.

He first married Ella Ralston in 1883 and their children were: Mary (5), Carrie E. (5), married J. Preston Siple, William (5), Berlin (5) married Grace Ralston, Louie (5), Roy (5), Emma (5), Catherine (5), Grace (5), John (5), married Caroline Pullins and had a son Winfield Scott Hammer who married Maggie Varner and has four children: Frieda (6), Anna Lee (6), Mary (6), and John David (6), Edward Ashby's second marriage was to Rhoda F. Bodkin in 1904 and their four children are Glenn, Edward, Henry and Virginia, all in the 5th generation.

John (3) born 1825 married Elizabeth Simmons and went to Braxton Co.

George (3) twin to John, married Susan Mauzy and went to Lewis county. Susan was one of Michael and Grace Mauzy's Thirteen.

Balsor (3) married Mary a daughter of Henry and Rachel Simmons and lived at the homestead. This Mary was killed by being thrown from a horse and was survived by three children: Susan (4) born 1847 married Jacob Mallow, Sr. of Upper Tract. No issue.

(The writer remembers when she was a child, of seeing Mrs. Mallow ride a big, roan horse when on her way to visit at her old home. She stopped to visit at the home of the writer.)

Rachel (4) married Austin Moyers and had three children: Eva (5) married Luther Todd and had four children, Elsie (6), (wife of Cameron Eckard), Freda (6) wife of Dolph Day. Gordon (6) single, and Glenna (6) wife of Clyde Puffenbarger. Their child is named Linda-Lane (7).

Dora (5) married Pearl Simmons and had a family.

Luther Moyers (5) married Bettie Hoover and has a family.

George D. Hammer (4) (named for his grandmother whose maiden name was Daggy.) He died November 9, 1930 at the age of eighty-five years and Valeria his wife who was a daughter of Henry and Catherine Fleisher Sinnet died December 27, 1933 at the age of ninety years. They are buried in Mt. Olive Cemetery. Their five children: Mary J. (5) married H. Lee White of Minna Ha Ha Springs, and their children Glenna (6) killed by lightning, Daggy (6) of Ohio, Mamie (6) married Rev. S. Kullman and has a daughter named Glenna (7), Arnt (6) lives at home and has three children: Max, Rex and Lee, all in the 7th generation of this line.

Phebe (5) married Howard Rexrode and had two children: Mrs. Lilie Colaw (6), and Myrtle, at home (6).

Martha (5) twin to Phebe married Kennie Simmons, son of Henry and has one child Evelyn (6) who married Ashby Nesselrodt and has a son, Bobbie (7).

Elizabeth (5) married Kennie Judy, a son of Henry and Susan (Mauzy) Judy. Their children: Laymon (6) married Eva Ruff of Manassas, Va. and has three children, Dennis, Carolyn and Judy, all in the 7th generation.

Glenna (6) married Glenn Ruff and they have one child, Glenda Joe Ruff.

H. Dice Hammer (5) married Rachel E. Simmons a daughter of Samuel and Millie Snider Simmons. Millie died March 24, 1930 at the age of 88 years. Dice and Rachel were the parents of five children: Mattie married Daniel Propst and died early without issue, Leta B. (the B is for Balsor, her grandfather) married Olin Eye and lives in Franklin and their two children are Gene and Eddie. Irvin L. was married in 1930 to Annie a daughter of Glenn K. and Alice Judy Simmons and lives at the old Simmons homestead, a large brick house ten miles south of Franklin. Stonewall Jackson made this home his headquarters when here during the Civil War. When the old house was being remodeled about 1930 Irvin L. Hammer found a lot of gold coins on top of a wall plate, the dates of which proved that

they had been hidden there before the Civil War and Mr. Hammer keeps them as prized souvenirs. Jessie O. Hammer married J. Glenn Byerly of Mount Solon, Va., and their four children are, Lois, Thomas, James, and Ellen Sue.

Clarence L. Hammer married Dorothy Conley. They live at Front Royal, Va., and have two children, Linda and Joe.

John W. Hammer who came to Pendleton county, March 1, 1946 as county farm agent, is a descendant of the Pioneer Balsor Hammer. Balsor's son, George Hammer (2) married Elizabeth Daggy, then they had a son George (3) who married Susan Mauzy and moved to Lewis county, and had three children: John Henry, Albert and one daughter in the (4) generation.

John Henry (4) married Alice Amanda Horner. They had a son named Zed Pierce Hammer (5) who married Gay Jewell, then their son John W. (6) married Mary George Spangler, and their son Johnnie born June 1, 1945 is in the 7th generation from the pioneer, Balsor Hammer.

The family of John Henry (4) is as follows: Howard, Mayme, (married ———— Ward.) Martha (married Jarvis), Sudie (married Ceph Eaken), Iva (married Tom Arthur), Zedd Pierce (married Gay Jewell of Heaters, Braxton county, West Va.). The family of Zed Pierce (5) and Gay Jewell Hammer is as follows: John W., Catherine, Richard, and Frank (6) (who has three children, Mike, Junior and Karen), and Brooks (6) (who had four children, Junior, Sharon, David and Catherine Allen), Grover (5), a son of John Henry, has five children: (Mary, Alice (married ———— Swisher), Lynn, and Glenn, and Robert who is County Agent of Randolph county (First cousin to John W. Hammer Pendleton county agent who gave me this information about his grandfather, John Henry Hammer's descendants).

MAUZY LINEAGE — Michael 1776-1848 married Grace Laird and they were the parents of thirteen children. The name Mauzy is French. Michael the pioneer came to Pendleton county from Mount Sidney, Virginia.

HAMMER REUNION, 1948. The Hammers in Pendleton county held a family reunion August 8, 1948 at Thorn

Spring Park, three miles south of Franklin, with three hundred descendants gathered from far and near. The following descendants of Balsor Hammer came from French Creek in Upshur county: Mr. and Mrs. Fay Hammer, Marilyn Fay Hammer, Miss Myrtle Hammer, Miss Helen Hammer Hawkins and Shirley Ann and Carol Hawkins. There was a program with Dr. D. L. Beard of Mount Solon, Va., a former minister in Pendleton county, as the speaker. Music was furnished by the Ruddle String band, Ernest and Brooke Ruddle, Fred and Hansel Smith, Henry Roberson and Charles Meadows. The oldest descendant present was Clay Hammer, aged 85 of Mount Sidney, Virginia. The large families, descending through the past eight generations have scattered to many parts of the country, but many of the descendants returned for the reunion. The Ruddles, Byrds and other families who trace their ancestry back to the pioneer Hammer lines, were also present. This reunion was enjoyed so much that it was decided to hold another next year at the same place.

HISTORY is the collection of things that have happened. Every day brings its changes and for that reason a family history is never complete. For that reason there are blank pages herein enclosed.

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NOTES

“The links that bind us to the past are being broken, leaving us nothing but their memory to remind us of a forgotten Past.”

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"One generation passeth away and another generation cometh
but the earth abideth forever."—Ecclesiastes 1:4.

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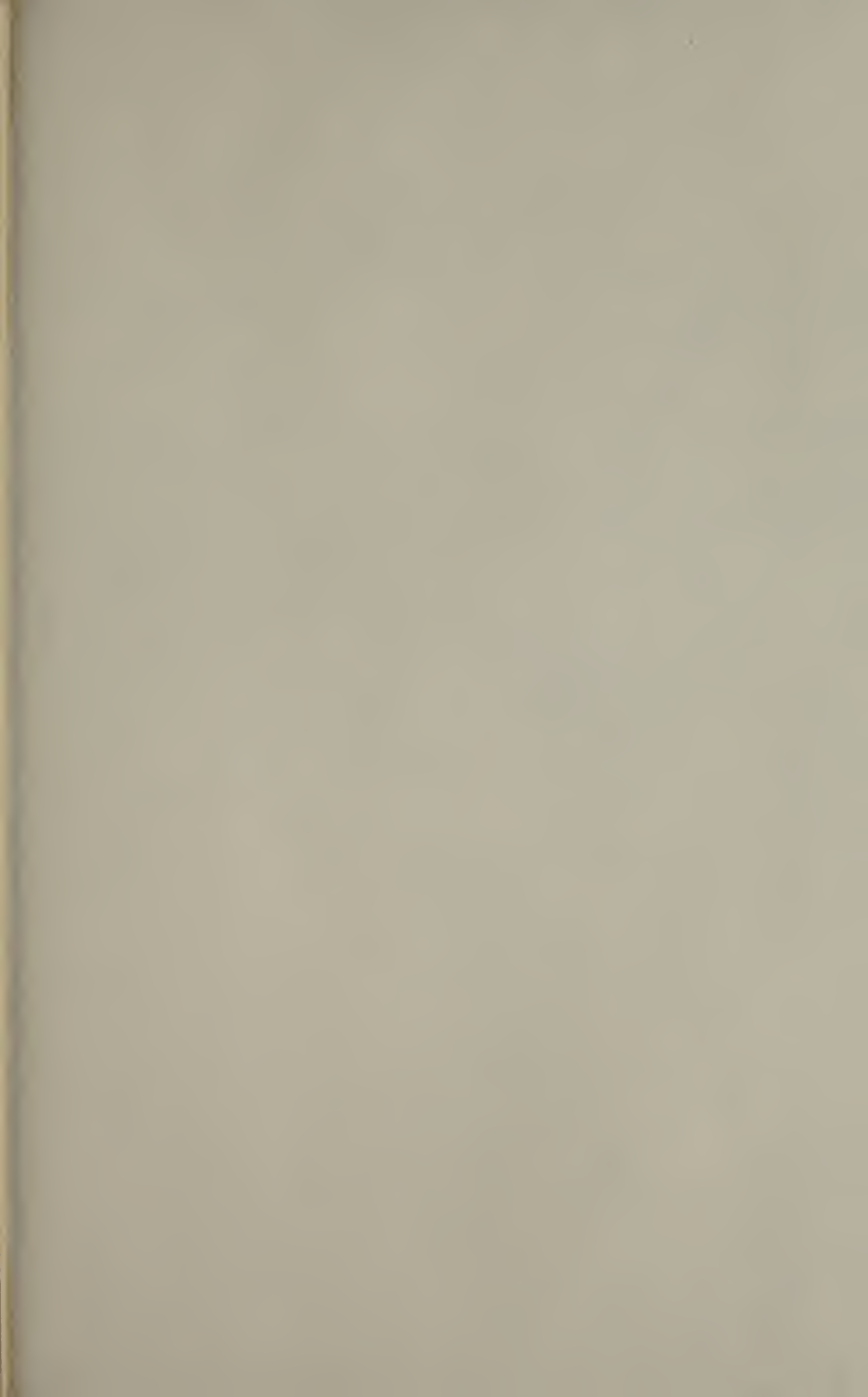
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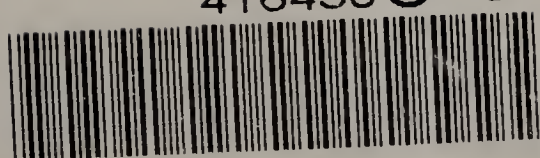
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